

Lookout Sleep: the secret to creative genius?

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Thursday

JANUARY 22, 2004

Partisan Go-Round: Bush.

Democrats spar over speech | 3

Italian Job: Did Berlusconi sneak off for plastic surgery? | 6

Gay Marriage: Va. House panel calls for national ban | 7



AUSSIE ACE: Agassi was among the winners in Wednesday's Open action. Sports | Page IO

PASS

CHINESE NEW YEAR | MONKEYING AROUND



JOY RIDE: A girl gets a ride in a sedan chair at the Temple of the Earth fair in Beijing on Wednesday, the eve of the Chinese New Year. Temples across the city are holding festivals to celebrate the Year of the Monkey, which begins Thursday. 🕈 D.C. celebrates: Local monkey business | Page 16

ENTERTAINMENT Weekend

Best Bette:

The Divine Miss *Midler* hits town. Boom! Also, Gomez, Medications, Decasia and **Balanchine's**

100th.

Weather > Partly Sunny



TEL AVIV, ISRAEL | An Israeli court charged a real-estate developer Wednesday with pay-

Sharon Bribe Scandal

ing more than a half-million dollars in bribes to Ariel Sharon — a case that could force the prime minister to step down.

Developer charged with

paying for Israeli PM's help

While Sharon has not been charged, Justice Ministry officials say they are considering whether to indict the Israeli leader. The officials say the decision is expected in the coming weeks or months.

Sharon's spokesman Asaf Shariv would not comment on the case except to say: "I can guarantee there will not be an indictment."

David Appel was indicted in the Tel Aviv Magistrates Court for allegedly giving Sharon \$690,000 to promote a tourism project in Greece and also to help rezone urban land near Tel Aviv before and during Sharon's term as prime minister.

Appel's lawyer, Moshe Israel, denied the charges.

The indictment prompted opposition politicians to urge Sharon's immediate resignation. But despite the fact that a leadership struggle in the ruling Likud Party already was brewing, his party was expected to stand fast behind Sharon — at least for now. PETER ENAV (AP)

Record Industry Sues 532 Music Swappers

WASHINGTON | The recording industry on Wednesday sued 532 computer users it said were illegally distributing songs over the Internet, the first lawsuits since a federal appeals court blocked the use of special copyright subpoenas to identify targets.

The action represents the most lawsuits filed at one time since the Recording Industry Association of America launched its campaign last summer to cripple music piracy.

Music lawyers filed the newest cases against "John Doe" defendants - identified only by their numeric Internet protocol addresses - and expected to work through the courts to learn their names and where they live. TED BRIDIS (AP)

CRIME | Saved by a Stapler When DeAnna Rankins. a tax preparer in Des Moines, Iowa, was accosted at work by a robber last week, she defended herself with the only weapon she had — a stapler. The man walked into Rankins's branch of

the Jackson Hewitt Tax Service and demanded money. Rankins raised her stapler and warned, "I will fight you," causing him to flee. "I felt the power of the Lord," Rankins told the Des Moines Register. "I would have stapled him." (EXPRESS) EyeOpeners | Page 2

FULL FORECAST ON PAGE 22

EyeOpeners

A Real Snoozer

Two men convicted of plotting what would have been Britain's biggest robbery lost their bid for a legal appeal Wednesday, even though the judge in their trial admitted to falling asleep during closing arguments. Raymond Betson and William Cockran each were jailed for 18 years in February 2002 for plotting to steal diamonds worth \$360 million from London's Millennium Dome in 2000. Lawyer Edmond Romilly said that Judge Michael Coombe not only fell asleep, he snored as well, "deflecting the jury's attention." (AP)

HEARSAY | BAD COW

"I knew it was a dead cow because she was stinking."

- SHERIFF H. LEE HART

OF CULPEPER COUNTY, VA., ON A 1,200 POUND COW CARCASS DISCOVERED MONDAY IN A COUNTY PARKING LOT. OFFICIALS SAY THEY DON'T KNOW WHERE THE COW CAME FROM.



BUSINESS

Nothing But Art

The Heights

Aside from the artwork scattered throughout the site, there's not much to see at Fausto Jaulis's hillside workshop in Peru. The 37-year-old sculptor shares his desert land some 12 miles outside Peru's capital, Lima, with several other artists — none of whom are formally trained. Despite the unadorned nature of his workspace, Jaulis's stone and concrete sculptures are a favorite among Lima's interior designers, often selling for more than \$1,000 apiece. (AP)

A Horning Brothers Community

DELICACIES

Good to the Last Dropping

SARS fears have stopped the Chinese from eating civet cats. But that hasn't turned off others from sipping the strangest of brews—one they insist is made from coffee beans eaten, partly digested and then excreted by the weasel-like animals.

Cafes in Indonesia,
Japan, the Philippines
and elsewhere sell coffee

they claim is a mix of regular beans and those that have passed through civets. Skeptics dismiss the fad as an unverifiable marketing gimmick. (AP)



FOOD Which White Meat?

The National Pork Board says there's something fishy about the use of the slogan "The Other White Meat" to promote Gloucester, Mass. The nation's oldest fishing port displayed the phrase on its Web site under a picture of a cod. Board spokeswoman Cindy Cunningham told the Gloucester Daily Times that if the city doesn't pull the slogan, which the pork group has trademarked, "it probably would be litigated." (AP)

rescues Chilled Kegs

It wasn't easy, but Russian troops on Tuesday retrieved 10 tons of beer from a frozen Siberian river. A truck carrying the beer fell through the ice while trying to cross the Irtysh River. Although the driver and his partner escaped, the beer sank. The kegs were rescued after a weeklong operation that included efforts by six divers, 10 men with electric saws and a modified T-72 tank, the BBC reports. The truck remains submerged. (EXPRESS)



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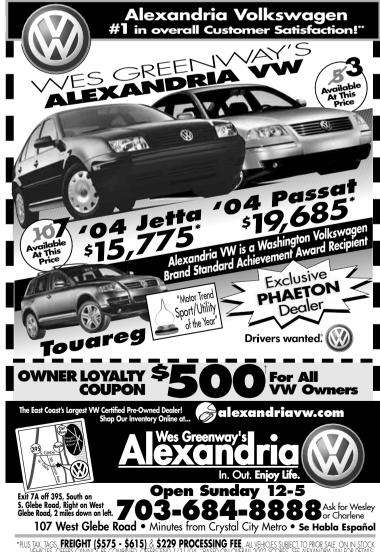
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The Washington Post



Source: Scarborough 2002 Release 1





Nation

In Brief

WASHINGTON

House Panel Urges Plan in Case of Catastrophic Attack

A House committee recommended legislation Wednesday that would provide for fast special elections if a terrorist attack killed or incapacitated many House members. The measure would require elections within 45 days if the speaker of the House announces that vacancies in the 435-member chamber exceed 100. (AP)

BOSTON

Study: Police in Mass. Issue More Tickets to Minorities

A detailed state survey on racial profiling shows minorities were disproportionately ticketed by Massachusetts law enforcement agencies. The data, compiled from April 2001 to June 2003 by Northeastern University's Institute on Race and Justice and released Tuesday, shows that 247 of the 341 agencies studied gave a greater proportion of tickets to minorities than expected given the racial makeup of the driving population. (AP)

BOULDER, COLO.

Student Site Logs Complaints About Liberal Professors

Republican students at the University of Colorado have launched a Web site to gather complaints about left-leaning faculty members, saying they want to document discrimination against conservative students and indoctrination to the liberal viewpoint. Most faculty and many Democrats deny liberal indoctrination exists on campuses. (AP)

Bush Takes Message on the Road

President touts job training, education plans

TOLEDO, OHIO | President Bush, on the defensive about jobs as he campaigns for re-election, said Wednesday "there are still troubled times" in states like Ohio as he touted his plan for retraining laid-off workers for new careers.

Democrats derided the approach as meager in an economy that has shed 2.3 million jobs during the Bush presidency.

A day after his State of the Union address, Bush began an overnight trip to three states important to his re-election strategy — Ohio, Arizona and New Mexico. He highlighted the economy as well as the war on terrorism, which polls say is his strongest suit with voters.

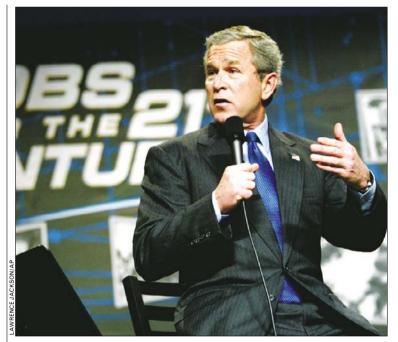
Since Bush took office, Ohio's unemployment rate has jumped from 3.9 percent to 5.7 percent, with

heavy losses in manufacturing.

"Nationwide this economy is strong," Bush said at Owens Community College near Toledo. "I fully recognize in Ohio there are still troubled times. The manufacturing sector here is sluggish at best, and therefore people are looking for work."

No Republican has ever won the White House without Ohio, and Bush's trip marked his 14th visit to the state. In the last election, he carried Ohio by 3.5 percentage points.

Bush said his \$500 million "Jobs for the 21st Century" plan would spur employment. From Ohio, Bush flew to Arizona to make the same argument at Mesa Community College outside Phoenix. JENNIFER LOVEN (AP)



President Bush discusses his plan to earmark money for job training and education during a stop Wednesday at Owens Community College in Perrysburg Township, Ohio.

Democrats Assail Bush's Address

WASHINGTON | Democrats seeking to challenge President Bush in his bid for re-election used his State of the Union address to tout their own proposals and question whether the president could be trusted on the war on terrorism and homefront economic issues.

"I don't agree with his premise that the war in Iraq was part of the war on terror," Wesley Clark told NBC's "Today" on Wednesday. "We really don't know why we went to war with Saddam Hussein."

Bush told the nation Tuesday



Retired Gen. Wesley Clark criticizes the Iraq war during a speech Wednesday at the University of New Hampshire.

night that the war on terrorism was not over. Clark commented, "It might have been if he'd stayed in Afghanistan instead of taking us into Iraq to go after Saddam Hussein."

John Kerry, who watched the speech in the home of supporters in New Hampshire, said Bush failed to deliver on a promise to create 250,000 jobs last month when only 1,000 new jobs were recorded. "Americans should be able to trust that what the president tells them is true," he said.

"After four years in office, this president still doesn't understand what's happening in living rooms across this country," Kerry said. (AP)

TRAIL MIX

The Democratic presidential candidates worked to gain ground in New Hampshire Wednesday:

- → Sen. John Kerry said he favors allowing cheaper prescription drugs into the country from Canada and using the buying power of the federal government to drive down drug prices.
- → Former Vermont Gov. **Howard Dean** called for lowering the limit on individual campaign contributions from \$2,000 to \$250 and for increasing the share of campaign financing paid for by taxpayers.
- Debate in New Hampshire: The latest on preparations for tonight's matchup | washingtonpost.com/politics



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- ROCKVILLE, MD-Thur. 1/29/04 12:30 and 7 pm, Doubletree Hotel
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Nation

ACLU Blasts Terror Database

Group says documents prove crime-fighting tool poses privacy threat

NEW YORK | A seven-state crime database launched with \$12 million in federal funds is a more powerful threat to privacy than its organizers acknowledge, the American Civil Liberties Union alleged Wednesday after obtaining documents relating to the program.

The law enforcement officials and private database company behind the Multistate Anti-Terrorism Information Exchange, or Matrix, contend it is merely an investigative tool that helps police quickly gather already-available information on suspects.

But the ACLU and other privacy advocates allege that the program too closely resembles a scrapped Pentagon program that aimed to mine a vast pool of data to spot patterns useful in terrorism investigations. Congress cut off funding last year for the so-called Total Information Awareness program after a privacy outcry.

Matrix lets states share crimi-

nal, prison and vehicle information with each other and cross-reference it with up to 20 billion records in databases held by Seisint Inc. The Seisint records include people's property, boats and Internet domains, their address history, utility connections, bankruptcies, civil court history, liens and business filings.

For now the project involves Connecticut, Florida, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Utah, though not all those states are using the system yet. In all, about 450 law enforcement agents can access Matrix, Jester said. BRIAN BERGSTEIN (AP)

ABORTION DEBATE | VISUAL PROTEST



MAKING HIS CASE: Charlie Harper hammers crosses into the grounds of St. Marys Catholic Church in Farmington, N.M., on Wednesday. Harper and other church members placed hundreds of crosses, meant to represent abortions performed, the day before the anniversary of the Jan. 22, 1973 Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court ruling that legalized abortion.

Court Backs EPA Over States in Clean Air Case

WASHINGTON | The Supreme Court ruled Wednesday that the federal **Environmental Protection Agency** can override state officials and order some anti-pollution measures that may be more costly.

The 5-4 decision, a victory for environmentalists, found the EPA did not go too far when it overruled a decision by Alaska regulators, who wanted to let operators of the Red Dog Mine, which produces zinc and lead, use cheaper anti-pollution technology for power generation.

The four justices who dissented said the ruling undercut the states' power to control their environmental policies.

The Clean Air Act allows state officials to make some decisions involving facilities within their borders, but still gives the EPA wide authority to enforce the anti-pollution law passed by Congress in 1970. Anne Gearan (AP)

Veneman Defends U.S. Beef Supply

WASHINGTON | Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman defended the Bush administration's response to the first mad cow case in the United States, telling a congressional panel Wednesday that restoring U.S. beef exports is a top priority.

While the first U.S. case of mad cow disease, discovered in December, has done little to alter American dining habits, limits on U.S. beef imports remain in effect around the world, including in Japan and Mexico — the largest markets for U.S. beef. (AP)

World

Verdict in 9/II Case Delayed

German court gives state time to question surprise new witness

BERLIN | In a dramatic turn that could salvage the state's case against an alleged accomplice in the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, a Hamburg state court delayed a verdict Wednesday after federal prosecutors made a last-minute motion to present testimony from a new witness.

Prosecutors applied for a 30-day break in the trial of Abdelghani Mzoudi to examine testimony by the witness, who has been guaranteed anonymity, the court said in a statement. Lawyers identified the witness as an Iranian intelligence official who claims to have information that Mzoudi was directly involved in the plot. A verdict had been scheduled for Thursday.

Mzoudi, a 31-year-old Moroccan and only the second Sept. 11 suspect to be tried worldwide, faces a possible 15 years in prison if convicted. GEIR MOULSON (AP)

HEARSAY | COLOMBIA

"The head of the mother snake was chopped off ... Now we have to chase the baby poisonous snakes."

-DAVID GADDIS, TOP U.S. DRUG AGENT
SAYING WEDNESDAY THAT "MICROCARTELS"
EMERGED IN COLOMBIA AFTER THE MEDELLIN
AND CALI DRUG CARTELS WERE CRUSHED.

HAITI | CIVIL UNREST



SCHOOL VIOLENCE: Students wash their faces after police fired tear gas to break up an anti-government demonstration at a university in Port-au-Prince on Wednesday. Violent protests against President Jean-Bertrand Aristide have surged in the last four months, claiming the lives of 47 people.

Egyptian Plane Downed by Pilot Error, Official Says

CAIRO, EGYPT | A preliminary report blames pilot error for the crash of an Egyptian airliner that killed all 148 people on board, an Egyptian civil aviation official said Wednesday.

The assertion is a reversal for the Egyptian government, which had insisted that the Flash Airlines jet went down on Jan. 3 because of a technical problem.

Analysis of the voice recorder indicated that the pilot gave no alarm to air traffic controllers, said the official of the civil aviation ministry, who spoke on condition of anonymity. Egyptian investigators are analyzing the data in Cairo, along with a French team and American observers. (AP)

who knew? The U.S. admitted more than I million permanent immigrants in 2001 and 2002, 25% more than in 2000, according to a study on migration released Wednesday. (AP)

Cleric May Bend To U.N. on Vote

Iraq's top Shiite seen as flexible over demands to hold direct elections

BAGHDAD, IRAQ | Iraq's top Shiite Muslim cleric and coalition officials signaled flexibility on holding early elections, with both sides suggesting they'll follow any U.N. recommendation on whether a direct vote is feasible, Iraqi and Western officials said Wednesday.

Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Husseini al-Sistani's insistence that Iraqi voters choose a transitional legislature has jeopardized a U.S. plan to transfer power to Iraqis and end the U.S. occupation of Iraq by July 1.

Ibrahim al-Jaafari, a Shiite member of the Iraqi Governing Council who spoke to al-Sistani, said Wednesday that if a proposed team of U.N. experts tells the cleric it isn't possible to organize direct elections by July 1, he would accept the verdict.

The current American plan, set out in November, involves choosing lawmakers in 18 regional caucus-



Al-Sistani

es to be held across Iraq in May. The assembly would then appoint a provisional government that would govern until elections in 2005.

Coalition officials maintain there is not enough time to hold legislative elections before the power transfer because of the unstable security situation and the absence of voter rolls and an election law.

Tens of thousands of Shiites have marched in Baghdad and other cities this week in support of al-Sistani's demand. VIJAY JOSHI (AP)

Iranian VPs Resign Over Election Flap

Officials protest after conservatives bar liberals from running

TEHRAN, IRAN | Iran's worst political crisis in years deepened Wednesday, with several government ministers and vice presidents submitting their resignations to protest the barring of thousands of would-be candidates from upcoming elections.

Government spokesman Abdollah Ramezanzadeh said that most of Iran's six vice presidents and 24 ministers have handed letters of resignation to President Mohammad Khatami for his approval.

Reformists accuse conservatives of trying to skew the Feb. 20 parliamentary elections in their favor. Hard-liners control the Guardian Council, which disqualified more than a third of the 8,200 people who applied to be candidates.

The council on Tuesday reinstated 200 of those who were disqualified and said it would reconsider the rest. But reformists said the reinstatements were not enough. (AP)

DIPLOMATIC BREAKDOWN

In a keynote address at the World Economic Forum in Switzerland on Wednesday, President Khatami called for dialogue as a solution to global conflicts but said he felt there was no chance for political discussion with the United States. "Any time we sense that the other side respects us and isn't forcing anything on us, we are prepared to talk. We have not sensed that



Former President Bill Clinton, a speaker at the Forum, didn't get the memo?

In Brief

SWITZERLAND

No Ties (or Cravats) Allowed At World Economic Forum

How to solve the knotty problem of making the World Economic Forum in Davos – where world leaders are now gathering to discuss global flashpoints — less stuffy? Easy: Tell the world's movers and shakers in attendance to lose their neckties. "We think it should be more relaxed,

more informal," said forum spokesman Michel Ogrizek. The fine for disobeying the order? Four dollars, which is to be donated to the U.N. Children's Fund. (AP)

SAUDI ARABIA

Prince Says He Was Nabbed Over Anti-Corruption Effort

An outspoken Saudi prince maintains he was kidnapped, drugged and flown home from Switzerland on orders from Saudi officials to stop him from pursuing an anti-corrup-

tion campaign. Prince Sultan bin Turki, a nephew of King Fahd, made the claim in a phone call to The Associated Press from his Riyadh home, where he said he has been confined for months. Prince Sultan does not hold a high-ranking position in the Saudi government. He is known for speaking his mind and is regarded as one of a small group of royal family members who favor bold reform. An employee at the Interior Ministry said nobody there was available to comment. (AP)

INDIA

Women Charged in Extortion Of Unemployed Engineers

from the United States." (AP)

Police have arrested a software engineer and her mother for allegedly taking money from 50 unemployed high-tech workers who were promised jobs in the United States, police said Wednesday. The women allegedly took a total of \$88,800, offering the engineers jobs in California. Overseas companies regularly seek workers here, and job brokers often charge finders' fees. (AP)

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World

Fears of Avian Flu Spread

900,000 fowl exposed to virus sold in Vietnam

HANOI, VIETNAM | Fears over Asia's bird flu outbreak spiraled Wednesday as Vietnam admitted that nearly 900,000 chickens possibly exposed to the deadly virus had been sold to the public.

"We have no idea whether these chickens were killed and eaten or slaughtered," said Nguyen Van Thong, deputy director of the Ministry of Agriculture's veterinary department.

The bird flu ravaging poultry farms in Asia has killed five people, all in Vietnam, and millions of chickens.

The World Health Organization said it was working on a new vaccine to protect people. But the vaccine might not be ready for several years, warned WHO spokesman Bob Dietz in Hanoi Wednesday. A WHO team plus six scientists from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control

were in Vietnam investigating how the H5N1 virus jumped from poultry to people there, Dietz said.

Jitterygovernments have banned poultry imports from countries affected by the disease. So far, there has been no evidence of person-to-person transmission. But health officials have warned that if the virus mutates to allow human transmission, it could become a bigger health crisis than SARS, which killed nearly 800 people worldwide last year. TINI TRAN (AP)



An 'Absurd' French Connection

Some recoil at latest interpretation of ban on religious symbols

PARIS | France's fight to keep religion out of schools has entered new — and some say absurd — territory.

Education Minister Luc Ferry said in a parliamentary debate on Tuesday that a planned ban on religious symbols could also cover facial hair and bandannas.

This came as a shock to many in France, particularly to teachers who will be policing the new law, which is expected to be in place for the next school year in September.

"Beards? Bandannas?" asked Daniel Robin, national secretary of France's largest union for high school teachers. "What next? This exercise has become absurd."

President Jacques Chirac says the law's goal is to protect France's secular underpinnings. However, it also is seen as a way to hold back Islamic fundamentalism in the nation's Muslim community, the largest in Western Europe.

Lawmakers begin debating the bill Feb. 3. Jocelyn gecker (AP) $\,$

MAD COW | SWAP MEAT



NOT FOR SALE HERE: Wholesalers bid on beef carcasses at a meat market in Tokyo on Wednesday. Japan ordered wholesalers not to sell the 862 tons of American beef that went on the market before U.S. imports were banned following the discovery of mad cow disease in Washington state, officials said.

A Nip and a Tuck? Berlusconi's Hiatus Prompts Rumors

ROME | Premier Silvio Berlusconi bowed out of a meeting with the Maltese president Wednesday for a "slight illness," a Maltese official said, as the Italian leader's near-disappearance from public view over the past month continued.

Meanwhile, an Italian magazine said the premier recently underwent extensive plastic surgery on his face and neck. An earlier, unconfirmed report said Berlusconi had a touch up around the eyes.

Berlusconi's last appearance in public was at a news conference on Dec. 20. A doctor has reportedly said the image-conscious billionaire had plastic surgery — but days later denied he said any such



Berlusconi

thing. The premier's office has declined to comment on the reports.

Speculation has also mounted that the premier might be sick, Berlusconi's

aides have brushed off all such reports, saying he has spent time away because there were no official commitments that required his presence in Rome. (AP)

Local

In Brief

ANNAPOLIS, MD.

Ehrlich's Proposed Budget a Boon for Md. Public Schools

Gov. Robert Ehrlich submitted a \$23.8 billion budget Wednesday that proposes making cuts in local government aid, closing a major corporate tax loophole and increasing a variety of state fees, but keeps his commitment not to increase taxes. The budget includes a \$326 million increase in aid for public schools, which Budget Secretary James "Chip" DiPaula said is the biggest percentage increase in history. (AP)

WASHINGTON

D.C. Council Lowers Cap on Annual Property Tax Increase

The D.C. Council on Wednesday approved a bill that would cap annual property tax increases at 12 percent, down from the current 25 percent limit. It also would increase from \$30,000 to \$38,000 a property tax deduction for those who live in properties they own. The legislation, which would provide \$28 million in tax relief this fiscal year, still is subject to approval by the mayor. (EXPRESS)

The Lotteries

January 21

DISTRICT

 Mid-day Lucky Numbers
 9-3-0

 Evening Lucky Numbers
 4-6-0

 Mid-day DC 4
 8-6-2-6

 Evening DC 4
 3-1-0-1

 Quick Cash
 22-14-36-1-29-25

 Hot Five
 22-8-30-21-2

MARYLAND

 Mid-day Pick 3
 3-1-5

 Evening Pick 3
 3-2-1

 Mid-day Pick 4
 4-8-0-6

 Evening Pick 4
 8-7-0-1

 Match 5
 2-4-7-26-36 Bonus: 30

VIRGINIA

Mid-day Pick 3 (Wed.) 3-8-2
Evening Pick 3 (Tues.) 7-5-0
Mid-day Pick 4 (Wed.) 5-8-5-1
Evening Pick 4 (Tues.) 6-7-5-9
Mid-day Cash 5 (Wed.) 5-6-10-24-25
Evening Cash 5 (Tues.) 7-8-15-22-32

MULTI-STATE GAMES

 Mega Millions (Tues.)
 5-7-14-21-45

 Mega Ball
 36

All winning numbers are official only when validated at a lottery ticket location or a lottery claims office. Drawings that occur after Express's deadline will be published two days later.

Va. Panel Urges Gay Marriage Ban

Resolution calling for addition to constitution passes unanimously

RICHMOND, VA. | A House panel unanimously passed a resolution Wednesday urging Congress to pass a constitutional amendment against gay marriages.

The resolution, sponsored by Del. Robert G. McDonnell, seeks an amendment defining marriage as a union between a man and a woman. It also would render civil unions between couples of the same sex invalid in the U.S.

McDonnell, R-Virginia Beach, said the constitutional amendment is needed to stop gay rights activists from changing marriage laws through the courts. He said recent cases in the Supreme Court and Massachusetts's highest court place Virginia's law banning gay marriages in jeopardy.

The House Rules Committee passed the resolution without debate. It now moves to the House floor for passage.

Gay rights proponents said it was disappointing the resolution passed unanimously. "This bill has no force of law," said Dyana Mason, executive director of Equality Virginia, the state's largest gay rights organization. "It's an insult to every hardworking gay and lesbian Virginian who wants nothing more than equal treatment and protection under the law." JUSTIN BERGMAN (AP)

MILITARY HONORS | FINAL SALUTE



LAID TO REST: Air Force Secretary James G. Roche, center, salutes the caskets of one of five servicemen killed in a Nov. 23 helicopter crash in Afghanistan as it is carried to a grave in Arlington National Cemetery Wednesday.

Questions Raised Over Prisoner's Death

WASHINGTON | Officials at the D.C. Jail were unable to explain Wednesday why it took 15 minutes to get an armed escort to take a dying prisoner to the hospital.

Doctors at the jail said the unidentified female inmate had no vital signs when she fell ill at 11:30 p.m. Monday, said District of Columbia Department of Corrections spokesman Bill Meeks. She was placed in an ambulance at 12:10 a.m. Tuesday, but Meeks said the ambulance did not leave the jail until 12:25 a.m. because jail officials were searching for an armed guard.

Doctors at Greater Southeast Community Hospital later pronounced the woman dead. (AP)

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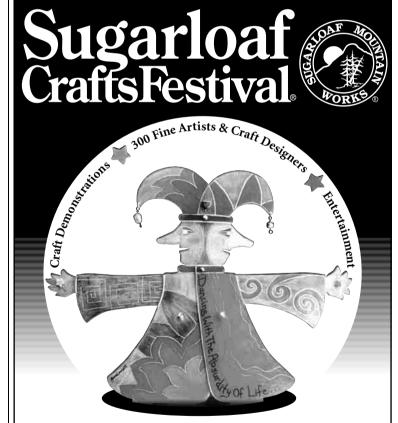
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Money

Home Building At 25-Year High

WASHINGTON | Housing construction picked up in December, helping to make 2003 the best year for home builders since 1978 and underscoring the critical role the sector played in the economy's resurgence.

The Commerce Department reported Wednesday that housing construction increased by 1.7 percent last month over November, ending 2003 on a high note. For all of last year, the number of housing units that builders broke ground on totaled 1.85 million, up from 1.70 million in 2002.

 ${\it Construction\ hit\ an\ all-time\ high} \\ {\it in\ 1978\ with\ 2.02\ million\ units}.$

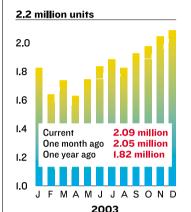
The housing market — powered by low interest rates — was one of the main forces supporting the economy last year.

The sector's strength contributed to the blistering 8.2 percent growth rate in the economy in the third quarter of 2003 — the best performance in nearly two decades.

Housing Starts

Here is a look at the construction rate of new homes and apartments.

Seasonally adjusted



SOURCE: Department of Commerce

Rates on benchmark 30-year mortgages sank to a four-decade low of 5.21 percent in the middle of June. Last week, rates on these mortgages stood at 5.66 percent, a six-month low. Jeannine Aversa (AP)



LIVE ONLINE

On the Job

Washington Post columnist **KENNETH BREDEMEIER** offers work-place advice Wednesdays at 11 a.m. on washingtonpost.com.

My workplace is very abusive and getting worse. The president of our company yells and curses at employees, belittles them for sport and has created company policies that are ridiculous. Do you suggest trying to hold a meeting to make suggestions about retention and employee satisfaction or just running for the hills?

Such abusive behavior is uncalled for, unprofessional and undermines productivity. How about a group going to the president and showing how the tirades are counterproductive? Or HR? Or the company board? Perhaps the board does not know what's going on, or does and condones it. But if you judge this hopeless, start looking elsewhere.

My girlfriend has an out-of-state meeting coming up. The company normally hires some temps from the local area to help, so we're wondering if I could tag along and also do some temp work. Is it worth asking or is it frowned upon?

I'm dubious. If you have such talents in whatever field is required for this temping, I suppose you could offer your services. But I think the company might well see this for what it is, you wanting to take a trip with your girlfriend.

I have a chronic illness but have not revealed this to my current employer due to biases that I have faced in the past. I have frequent doctor's appointments but am well within the bounds of my job. My HR manager has started noticing and made a point of asking if things were OK. What is my obligation to disclose the illness?

You may want to confide the problem to the supervisor so that they do not feel you are a slacker. You may be eligible to ask for this accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Money

In Brief

PHARMACEUTICALS

FluMist Makers to Donate 250,000 Doses to Agencies

After disappointing sales in the first season for a needle-free flu vaccine, the sellers of FluMist said Wednesday they plan to donate 250,000 doses to public health agencies. State and local health agencies can order FluMist from makers Wyeth and MedImmune, Inc., under a deal arranged last week with the Centers for Disease Control. The companies, which prepared between 4 million and 5 million doses, have sold only about 69,200. (AP)

EARNINGS WATCH

Starbucks Earnings Up 41%

Coffee retailing giant Starbucks said Wednesday that earnings grew a whopping 41 percent in its fiscal first quarter, boosted by especially strong sales during the holidays. The Seattle-based company reported earnings of \$110.8 million for the 13 weeks ended Dec. 28. Starbucks now has 7,500 stores worldwide and expects to open 1,300 more in 2004. (AP)

Low-Carb Diets Sap Juice Sales

Florida citrus industry plans \$1.8M campaign to win back dieters

LAKELAND, FLA. | Tired of losing orange juice drinkers to low-carb diets, Florida's citrus growers are fighting back.

The state Department of Citrus on Wednesday changed its marketing strategy to convince consumers that orange juice can be compatible with the Atkins diet as well as the popular weight-loss plan pushed by television talk show host Dr. Phil McGraw.

The department's lawyer also is reviewing legal options against some books, such as "The South Beach Diet," that discourage orange juice for dieting purposes because of its high sugar levels.

About \$1.8 million will be spent on a marketing campaign to combat the bad image caused by low-



Florida juice makers are fighting the perception their product is a diet no-no.

carb diets. The department is abandoning a marketing campaign that targeted moms and young professional women.

Florida's \$9 billion citrus industry has reason to be concerned. Orange juice consumption has fallen from 888 million gallons during the 2000-2001 growing season to an expected 844 million gallons in the current season. MIKE SCHNEIDER (AP)

Bush Suggests Zero-Down Home Loan

WASHINGTON | First-time home buyers could take out governmentinsured loans without making down payments under a Bush administration proposal. The Housing and Urban Development Department on Wednesday estimated that the "zero-down payment" mortgage initiative, if approved, could help 150,000 families buy homes.

The proposal is to be included in President Bush's 2005 budget request, which will be released next month.

NASDAQ Stock Market

-15.5

Someone who takes out a zerodown payment loan would have to go through financial counseling and make higher monthly payments, HUD said. On a \$100,000 loan, a zero-down payment borrower would pay roughly \$50 more per month than someone who puts 3 percent down. (AP)

Market Action

New York Stock Exchange

WDigitl

Gainers				Gainers			
STOCK	LAST	DAILY Change	DAILY Percent Change	STOCK	LAST	DAILY Change	DAILY Percent Cha
Goodyear	10.74	+1.23	+12.9	VC amps	2.83	+1.21	+74.7
StillwtrM	11.04	+1.19	+12.1	PrcOpt rs	4.47	+1.38	+44.7
FrankCov	2.86	+.26	+10.0	WillmsInds	5.19	+1.15	+28.5
Hartmx	4.92	+.42	+9.3	CritPath rs	2.30	+.49	+26.9
Aeropstl	29.82	+2.44	+8.9	AeroGen rs	3.75	+.77	+25.8
Losers				Losers			
TotalSys	23.68	-6.31	-21.0	RF MicD	9.85	-2.41	-19.7
SeagateT	16.10	-4.22	-20.8	TechRsh	18.37	-3.93	-17.6
Unifi	4.97	-1.15	-18.8	Netopia	16.75	-3.15	-15.8

-							
Rates			Currency (Dollars in foreign currency)				
	CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK		TODAY	PREVIOUS DAY	YEAR AGO	
Prime Rate	4.00	4.00	British Pound	.5466	.5498	.6184	
Fed Funds close	1.00	1.00	Canadian Dollar	1.2988	1.2914	1.5322	
3-month	0.87	0.86	European Euro	.7916	.7957	.9325	
2-year	1.65	1.63	Japanese Yen	106.91	107.13	118.13	
10-year	4.02	4.00	Mexican Peso	10.9800	10.8675	10.8230	
30-year	4.91	4.89	Taiwanese Dollar	33.68	33.68	34.67	

DOW	NASDAQ	S&P 500		
	1			
+94.96	-5.53	+8.85		
.0.00	2.22	.0.70		
+0.90 10623.62	-0.26 2142.45	+0.78 1147.62		

Bank Stocks							
STOCK	LAST	DAILY Change	YEAR TO DATE PERCENT CHANGE				
BcBilVArg	14.08	+.25	+1.7				
BcoSnCH	11.92	+.23	7				
BankOne	52.13	+1.26	+14.3				
Bk of Am	81.85	+1.78	+1.8				
Barclay	38.72	+.14	+6.5				
CredSuiss	38.18	+.32	+5.1				
DeutschBk	80.78	+1.03	-1.7				
FleetBost	44.70	+1.06	+2.4				
HSBC	80.65	+1.10	+2.3				
JPMorgCh	40.10	+1.01	+10.2				
LloydTSB	35.01	+.43	+7.6				
UBS AG	72.50	+.72	+6.6				
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Sports

Bush Steroid Plea Draws Applause

Anti-doping leaders disagree on speech's impact

DOPING | Anti-doping authorities worldwide hailed President Bush's attack on steroids as a key step in the fight against performance-enhancing drugs, but disagreed whether the president's appeal will have much of an immediate — or even long-term — impact on drug use by athletes.

Penn State's Charles Yesalis, an expert on steroid use in sports,

applauded the president's call

in his State of the Union address for athletes and pro sports leagues to eliminate drugs. But he said Wednesday that things won't change until fans



Bush

demand an end to doping.

Most fans are willing to ignore

unnaturally bulging biceps in order to see tape-measure home runs, world records and other amazing athletic feats, Yesalis said. Leagues will only wipe out doping if fans turn off their TVs and stop buying tickets.

Dick Pound, chairman of the World Anti-Doping Agency, said the speech was "as close to a home run as you can get on this issue." "It's never been said before by someone in his position. He's saying this is a real issue, a national issue," Pound said.

International Olympic Committee member Mario Pescante, Italy's undersecretary for sports and head of Europe's Olympic Committees, said Bush's words must be followed by concrete action. ROB GLOSTER (AP)

Testing: President Bush's State of the Union speech has given leverage to baseball owners seeking a more thorough drug testing program | Today's Post, Sports

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

treatment with others. (AP)

In Brief

KOBE BRYANT CASE

Judge Closes Friday Hearing

A hearing to determine whether

Kobe Bryant's accuser has given

up her medical privacy rights will

be closed to the public, the judge ruled Wednesday. The hearing is

scheduled for Friday to determine

whether Bryant's attorneys can

prove the 19-year-old woman has

given up her privacy rights by talk-

ing about her medical condition and

Stanley Resigns From Mystics

Marianne Stanley resigned Wednesday as head coach of the Washington Mystics, the team announced Wednesday. In two

seasons with the Mystics, Stanley led the squad to a 26-40 record. Washington made the playoffs for the second time in franchise history in 2002



Stanley

under Stanley. Assistant coach Linda Hill-MacDonald has also resigned. (EXPRESS)

SOCCER

Etcheverry, United Part Ways

Midfielder Marco Etcheverry won't be back with the D.C. United, the club announced Wednesday. The 33-year-old playmaker will pursue playing opportunities elsewhere. Etcheverry was the last remaining player from the squad's 1996 inaugural squad. He leaves United as its all-time leader in assists (101) and games played (191). (EXPRESS)

PRO FOOTBALL

Ravens' Fuller Offers Reward Following Break-In, Shootout

Baltimore Ravens cornerback Corey Fuller offered a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of an intruder who entered his Florida home early Wednesday in an apparent robbery attempt that ended in gunfire. Fuller, 32, and a house guest went outside to get something from a car when they were confronted by the gunman at about 2:30 a.m. The man chased Fuller back into the house and then fled after about 20 shots were exchanged, police said. No one was injured. (AP)

Terps' battle royal: For results of Maryland's basketball game against No. I Duke | washingtonpost.com/sports

Top Seeds Advance in Aussie Open

TENNIS | Defending champion Andre Agassi and top-ranked Andy Roddick rushed through straight-set victories in secondround matches Wednesday at the Australian Open.

About the only mistake Agassi made in a 6-0, 6-2, 6-4 win over 18-year-old Tomas Berdych of the Czech Republic came when he changed rackets early in the third set and accidentally carried the plastic cover on court.

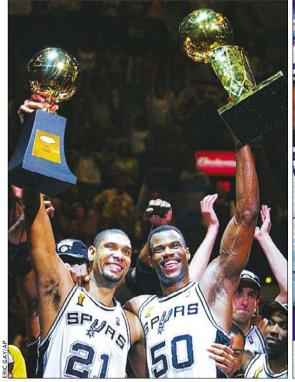
Agassi now faces 1999 runnerup Thomas Enqvist of Sweden in pursuit of his fifth Australian Open title and his ninth Grand Slam.

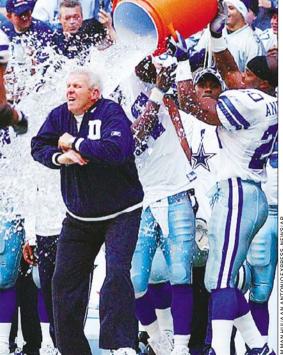
Meanwhile, Roddick sped through his 6-2, 6-2, 6-3 win over Bohdan Ulihrach, firing 20 aces along the way.

Justine Henin-Hardenne, ranked No. 1 and winner at Wimbledon and the U.S. Open in 2003, had a 6-1, 6-4 win over Camille Pin of France, and fourth-seeded Amelie Mauresmo advanced in straight sets. PAUL ALEXANDER (AP)



No. 1 seed Andy Roddick had no trouble in his second-round match Wednesday.





SEEING STARS: Tim Duncan and David Robinson brought San Antonio two NBA titles; Bill Parcells led Dallas to the NFC playoffs.

For Sports, Don't Mess With Texas

Super Bowl is latest in long line of athletic attractions in the state

HOUSTON | Roger Clemens will play for the Astros, the Spurs are NBA champions, Bill Parcells has the Cowboys on the rise — and the Super Bowl is coming to Houston.

When it comes to sports, things are just dandy deep in the heart of Texas. Houston, especially.

When the New England Patriots and Carolina Panthers meet in the Super Bowl on Feb. 1, much in this city of 2 million will have been chronicled by a media horde and visited by thousands of out-of-towners.

The NFL title game gives Houston a golden opportunity to send out a positive impression of the nation's fourth-largest city.

"You don't really rebrand a city on an event, but it's a nice platform to start," Super Bowl host committee chairman Chuck Watson said.

And that's exactly what it is — just the beginning. After the Super Bowl, the city will host baseball's All-Star game in July and the Tennis Masters Cup in November.

The whole state has gotten in on the act of luring big names to big — and small — cities.

Clemens and Andy Pettitte left the

Yankees for the Astros. In the NBA, former New York Knicks coach Jeff Van Gundy is now leading the Houston Rockets, and he brought along Patrick Ewing to tutor Yao Ming.

Shortstop Alex Rodriguez is still with the Texas Rangers; Bob Knight resides in Lubbock, where he coaches Texas Tech; and ex-Alabama coach Mike Price is the new football coach at Texas-El Paso.

Other Texas cities will host big events this year, too: The Final Four is set for San Antonio, and the Breeders' Cup Thoroughbred World Championships will be held at Lone Star Park, near Dallas-Fort Worth.

Sports

Mets Score Trademark Victory Over British Met

BASEBALL | The New York Mets picked up an offseason victory, going to Britain to get it.

In a case pitting the Mets against The Met Office - Britain's meteorological service — the British Patent Office ruled the major league baseball team may register its logo.

Although baseball has little following in Britain, the weather service contended its trademark might be confused with the Mets logo.

In turning down the weather agency's claim, trademark registrar George Salthouse allowed the Mets to register their trademark for use on items such as trading cards, caps and T-shirts.

The Met Office is weighing an appeal.

Wayne Elliott, a spokesman for The Met Office, said Major League Baseball Properties has also applied



New Mets Kaz Matsui and Jose Reves need not worry about New York's logo.

to use the word "Met" and not just "Mets'

Ethan Orlinsky, the chief lawver for MLBP, said the case was one of "hundreds or thousands of similar cases."

Dr. Jeremy Philpott, the Patent Office's spokesman, said the British public was unlikely to be confused between the weather office and the baseball team. STEPHEN WADE (AP)

SENIOR BOWL | CHARGED UP



FIRST LOOK: Senior Bowl South squad coach Marty Schottenheimer, who is also the head coach of the San Diego Chargers, leads a practice Wednesday in Mobile, Ala. Saturday's Senior Bowl is a showcase for college all-stars looking to be drafted in the NFL. The Chargers have the top pick in April's draft.

TENNIS (11 p.m. on ESPN2) The | Australian Open continues in Melbourne,

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL (7 p.m. on ESPN2) North Carolina (11-3, 1-2) looks to even its record in the ACC when playing the improved Florida State (12-5, 1-3).

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL (8:30 p.m. on FoxSports) The top two teams in the Pacific 10 - Stanford (14-0, 5-0) and UCLA (9-4, 5-1) - square off.

PRO BASKETBALL (7 p.m. on TNT) Sacramento goes for its 30th win of the young season when visiting Cleveland.

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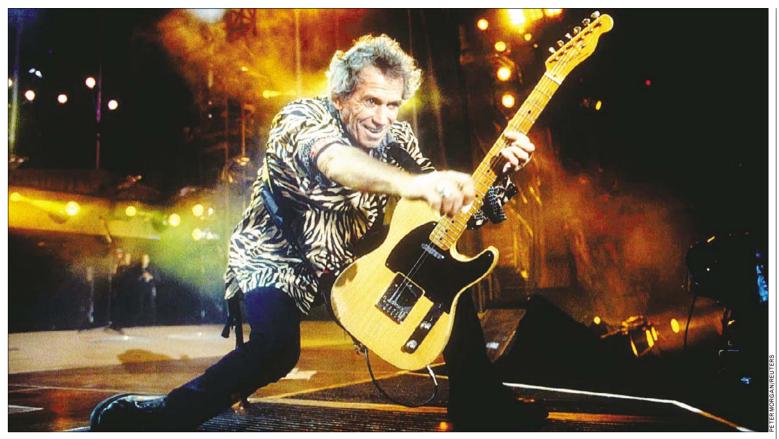
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Lookout



SATISFIED SLEEPER: Once upon a time, before Keith Richards was ancient, he went to bed. When he woke up, lo! The riff in "Satisfaction" had come to him in his sleep.

While You Were Sleepir

The brain can solve knotty problems as we slumber, scientists say

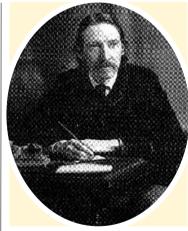
STUDIES | Rolling Stones guitarist | Keith Richards said the riff in "(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction" came to him in his sleep, while the 19thcentury chemist Dmitri Mendeleev literally dreamed up the periodic table of elements.

Now, for the first time, scientists say they have proved what creative minds have known all along: that our sleeping brains continue working on problems that baffle us during the day, and that the right answer may come more easily after eight hours of rest.

that 70 million Americans are sleep-deprived, contributing to increased accidents, worsening health and lower test scores. The new study is considered to be the first hard evidence supporting the common-sense notion that creativity and problem solving appear to be directly linked to adequate sleep.

Some researchers said the study provides a valuable reminder for overtired workers and students that sleep is often the best medicine.

"A single study never settles an Previous studies have shown | issue once and for all, but I would |



Sleep aided Robert Louis Stevenson.

say this study does advance the field significantly," said Dr. Carl E. Hunt, director of the National Center on Sleep Disorders Research at the National Institutes of Health. "It's going to have potentially important results for children for school performance and for adults for work performance."

University of Luebeck scientists found that volunteers taking a simple math test were three times more likely than sleep-deprived participants to figure out a hidden rule for converting the numbers into the right answer if they had eight hours of sleep. The results appear in Thursday's issue of Nature.

Jan Born, who led the study, said the results support biochemical studies of the brain that indicate memories are restructured before they are stored. Creativity also appears to be enhanced in the process, he said.

History is rife with examples of artists and scientists who have awakened to make their most notable contributions. Robert Louis Stevenson credited a good night's sleep with helping him create scenes in "The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." And Elias Howe came up with his idea for the sewing machine after

Born said the exact process in the sleeping brain for sharpening these abilities remains unclear. The changes leading to creativity or problem-solving insight occur during "slow wave" or deep sleep that typically occurs in the first four hours of the sleep cycle, he said.

The results also may explain the memory problems associated with aging, because older people typically have trouble getting enough sleep, especially the kind of deep sleep needed to process memories, Born said.

Other researchers said they have long suspected that sleep helps to consolidate memories and sharpen thoughts. But until now it had been difficult to design an experiment that would test how it improves insight.

The study should be considered a warning to schools, employers and government agencies that sleep makes a huge difference in mental performance, wrote Pierre Maquet and Perrine Ruby of the University of Liege in a commentary on the research, also published in Nature. The results "give us good reason to fully respect our periods of sleep — especially given the current trend to recklessly curtail them." WILLIAM MCCALL (AP)

Suffer the Little Cell Phones

BOSTON | Americans may rely | on everyday technology like cell phones, TV sets and the like — but it drives them crazy. At the top of the list? The cell phone.

An annual Massachusetts

known as the Lemelson-MIT Invention Index, found that among adults asked what invention they hate most but can't live without, 30 percent said the cell phone.

Alarm clocks were a close sec-Institute of Technology survey, ond, with 25 percent, followed by

the television with 23 percent and razors with 14 percent. Microwave ovens, computers and answering machines also earned spots as detested technology.

The survey has been conducted for the past eight years to gauge public opinion toward inventions, inventors and technology.

"The interconnectedness you get from the cell phone is a very positive thing, and I think that's one of the most important things, the bringing together of people," said Lemelson Center Director Merton C. Flemings. "The downside of that is that you sometimes want to be alone.'

Some cherish their technological appendages. Jaime Wasserman, 26, of Boston, walked through Quincy Market with her cell phone pressed to her ear.

"There's really nothing that irritates me," she said. "An alarm clock? You need an alarm clock. People who hate it are probably lazy people who just don't feel like getting up in the morning." THEO EMERY (AP)

Entertainment



VeekendPa



BAWDY OF WORK: The Kiss My Brass Tour finds Midler rolling out the hits that made her famous, the songs of Rosemary Clooney and the big crippled-mermaid number.

Big Brassy Broad

Bette Midler brings her singular divine madness to all kinds of fans

OUT & ABOUT | Showgirl, diva, grande dame of showbiz, gay icon, wedding-song schmaltz-peddler -Bette Midler is everything a consumate entertainer can be. But most of all - say it with me, darlings she's the Divine Miss M.

Midler made her bones singing in the bathhouses of the '70s (bathhouses, boys and girls, were ... never mind) and her large gay audience has never turned its back even as she folded in mamas and daughters (thanks to starring in screen weepers like "Beaches"), music aficionados impressed by her massive pipes and couples entranced by the naughty accessibility of her half-comedy act. One of her most jaw-dropping tricks, a trademark moment in her bumptious live act, involves rolling onstage in the sparkling costume of a mermaid, organdy wafting about her shoulders, her glittering tail thwapping away. And she's confined to a wheelchair. She's a fairy tale in a fishtail, anger and pain and beauty and fantasy in one shiny package.

Midler's latest album, "Bette Midler Sings the Rosemary Clooney Songbook," pays tribute to another grande dame of the knock-'em-dead school of entertainment. She collaborates with her once-and-future piano accompanist, Barry Manilow, on a series of elegant, amusing, personality-rich songs like "Come On-A My House," Mambo Italiano" and "Slow Boat to China."

Such is Midler's respect for the late Ms. Clooney that the announcement of their dueling Grammy nominations — Midler's ironically for her tribute album — caused the singer to suggest recusing herself from the competition. It's not like any of her personalities needs the recognition. (EXPRESS)

MCI Center, 601 FSt. NW; Fri., Jan. 23, 8 p.m. \$42.50-\$178; 800-551-7328. (Metro Center)





WASHINGTONPOST.COM/ENTERTAINMENT

Art. Rock: **Hott Beat Laffs It Up**

That conceptual band you and a similarly drunken friend claimed you should start? Too late. The local duo Hott Beat wear giant masks onstage while playing comedic electro-pop; New York's Bling Kong was forced to become a band after too-brisk sales of the "Bling Kong" T-shirt. Cheerleaders, three drummers and video crew included.

Black Cat, 1811 14th St. NW; Sun., Jan. 25, 9 p.m., \$5; 202-667-7960. (USt.-Cardozo)

California Girl: L.C. Armstrong at Mateyka

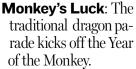
Painter L.C. Armstrong knows all about surfaces, sunsets and the smooth embrace of fantasy, all elements of Southern California beach-and-car culture. The promise and menace of glossy veneers is her specialty, seen in the bursting blooms and theatrical sunsets and the bomb fuses she burns onto the canvas — of her strange, remote paintings. Closes Jan. 24.

Marsha Mateyka Gallery, 2012 R St. NW; 202-328-0088.

Continued on page 14



Armstrong's "Passion Flowers Over Paradise Motel" adorn and menace.



OUT & ABOUT | 16



Chilly Reception: "Melissa Arctic" updates "A Winter's Tale" and moves the action to Minnesota.

STAGE | 15



Bloody Good: Spicy. sweet-tart, versatile blood oranges transport salads to sun-splashed Spain.

FOOD | 18

A Beautiful Mess

An unusual film shows the poetry of natural destruction

FILM | "Things fall apart," David Byrne once sang, copping a line from Chinua Achebe, who himself nicked it from W.B. Yeats.

Another cultural game of telephone on the subject of entropy is conducted by filmmaker Bill Morrison, whose "Decasia" and "The Film of Her" screen this weekend. The 67-minute "Decasia" pairs slowed-down, disintegrating vintage footage with a hypnotic, stentorian symphony by Michael Gordon. The soundtrack comes on like Philip Glass orchestrated with police sirens and locomotives.

From waves surging against rocks to a whirling dervish in midtrance, images are victims of the special effects that occur naturally when volatile nitrate film stock decays. Landscapes seethe into clouds. Bubbling amoeboid forms suggest the liquid projections in psy-



AND IN THIS CORNER, THE BLOB: A boxer battles bubbling nothingness in Bill Morrison's "Decasia," a demonstration of how memory is as friable as nitrate film.

chedelic light shows. Where a boxer once pounded the bag, he now slugs it out with a boiling void. A meditation on time's unraveling of human endeavor, "Decasia" draws on everything from the similar Dutch film "Lyrical Nitrate" to the works of Stan

Brakhage and artist and animator William Kentridge. GLENN DIXON

National Gallery of Art, 4th Street and Constitution Avenue NW; Fri., Jan. 23, 12:30 p.m.; Sat., Jan. 24, 3:30 p.m., free; 202-737-4215. (Archives-Navy Memorial)



WON'T INDUCE DROWSINESS: The hard-rocking Medications get really ill.

Taking the Cure

MUSIC | Devin Ocampo's fiercely rocking Medications play Thursday at Black Cat; opening is the Rude Staircase, a fantastically unorthodox nine-piece freak show that employs guitars, bass, drums, horns, keyboards, a violin and, of course, trashcans.

Ocampo played drums in Smart Went Crazy before fronting Faraquet. Citing the modern beat poet Charles Bukowski, the Who and Black Flag as prominent influences, Medications play catchy alt-rock that's equally evocative of Ted Leo and the Pharmacists and Sunny Day Real Estate. The intensity

of their performances is infamous. "That's the goal," Ocampo said. "We'll rock your face off live."

Though the Rude Staircase is a vehemently unique ensemble, it maintains a hook-driven pop sensibility. The band tends to polarize audiences, neatly dividing the conventional from the adventurous.

If the dominance of straightlaced Fugazi-ites has rendered D.C.'s music scene bland and boring, this weekend's show presents a convincing rebuttal. TIM FOLLOS

1811 14th St. NW; Thu., Jan. 22, 9 p.m.,\$5; 202-667-7960. (U St.-Cardozo)

TopStops

Continued from page 13



Blame the little metal plates: the business end of a member of Step Aside.

Tapstravaganza: TWA and Step Aside

That staccato pounding you hear is the intricate jackhammer jazz of local tap-dance artistes heading your way. Tappers With Attitude joins with the group Step Aside Dance Company for a night of floor-abuse in styles from swing to be-bop, Latin to hip-hop, with some trad thrown in for fun.

Dance Place, 3225 8th St. NE; Sat., Jan. 24, 8 p.m.; Sun., Jan. 25, 4 p.m., \$18, \$14 students, \$6 under 18; 202-269-1600. (Brookland-CUA)

Nature Talk: The Groundhog's Lament

That Puxatawny Phil has it easy. Everyone waits for him to see his shadow but no one calls him on his prediction. Demand some answers from folks dressed up (as groundhogs, we hope) to discuss the history of Groundhog Day and other natural weather predictors, like Aunt Beebaw's rheumatiz, at a talk and demonstration.

Hidden Oaks Nature Center, 7701 Royce St., Annandale; Sun., Jan. 25, 2 p.m., \$3, reservations required; 703-941-1065.

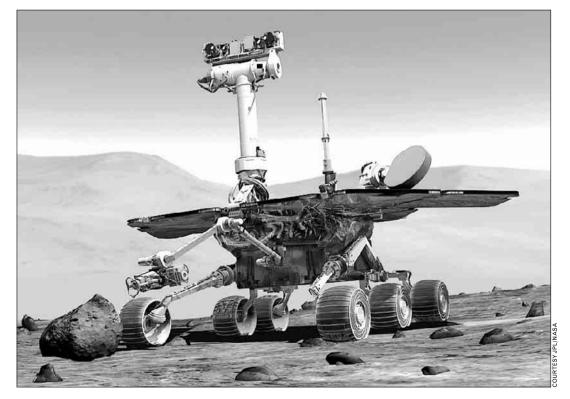
'1984': Cautionary Tales

The Capitol Hill Arts Workshop presents an adaptation of a very scary story about the future, only it's not really the future, in which everyone's civil liberties are ravaged. It's called "2004." No, wait — "1984." Through Feb. 28.

Capitol Hill Arts Workshop, 545 Seventh St. SE; opens Sat., Jan. 24, \$20-\$25; 202-547-6839. (Eastern Market)

Continued on page 17

EXPLORATION | RED PLANET ROVER



NO LITTLE GREEN MEN? National Geographic hosts an exhibition of images from the Mars Global Surveyor, as well as Martian maps, a model of the robot and a history of observation of (and speculation about) our exotic neighbor. Through April 25. National Geographic Society, 1145 17th St. NW; opens Thu., Jan. 22, free; 202-857-7588.

DANCE | BALANCHINE CENTENARY



GOSSAMER WINGS: The play George Balanchine loved in Russia became his first full-length American ballet, Washington Ballet dances Act Lof "A Midsummer Night's Dream" in honor of the choreographer's 100th birthday, through Jan. 25. Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; \$48-\$80; 202-467-4600.

A Chill in the Air

The romantic woes of 'A Winter's Tale' move to Minnesota

STAGE | In the kingdom of Sicilia, King Leontes suspects that his wife, Hermione, has taken a lover in the form of Leontes's best friend, Polixenes

Oh, you've heard that one? How about this? In the mythical Minnesota town of Pine City, Leonard Matsen, his wife Mina and their childhood friend Paul undergo a tumultuous emotional upheaval, the result of the creeping poisons of suspicion and doubt, that is ultimately redeemed by the healing force of art.

Craig Wright's play "Melissa Arctic" is the latest in the



Holly Twyford as Mina in Shakespeare Theatre's frosty "Melissa Arctic."

Shakespeare Theatre's string of striking new stagings and innovative interpretations of Shakespeare's works. $\bar{\text{W}}$ hile it borrows the bones of Shakespeare's "A Winter's Tale," it updates and toys with the original story and adds music. The title is the name of a "globally imperiled" butterfly (Oeneis melissa) of no great beauty but plenty of frosthardened resilience.

Wright is the author of numerous well-received plays, including the Pulitzer Prize-nominated "The Pavilion" and last year's "Recent Tragic Events" (winner of the American Theatre Critics Circle 2003 award). He calls "Melissa Arctic" not an improvement upon "A Winter's Tale," but a fulfillment of a fantasy hinted at in the play — that art can be more vibrant than pain and fear, and that the confidence of creation can beat back human insecurity. (EXPRESS)

Folger Theatre, 201 East Capitol St. SE; opens Fri., Jan. 23, \$25-\$48; 202-544-7077 or www.folger.edu. (Capitol South/Union Station)

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XX016C 3x6

Weekend Pass Entertainment

Luck Be a Monkey

The Chinese lunar New Year brings a change of species

OUT & ABOUT | Monkeys, it's your time to shine. What we're calling 2004 in the Western world, the Chinese have seen before, as part of a lunar calendar that's as cyclical as life itself.

Folks born during a Year of the Monkey are all kinds of good things - brainy, reliable, cheerful, sociable, alert.

They adapt themselves to fluid situations, get retiring rams to open up, are terrific strategists (unlike those impulsive tigers). They make better listeners than the dismissive snake, to say nothing of boastful ol' roosters and demanding boars. And

they are quite compatible with the popular and fun-loving dragon.

This year's Chinese New Year Parade features the traditional dragon snaking through downtown streets. Before the parade, drummers and lion dancers will perform outside of the Museum of American Art, and the firecrackers go off around 4 p.m.

Also, the Wah Luck House at Sixth and H streets, a service center for local and incoming Asians, will host New Year's activities, with lucky money, Year of the Monkey



Who really lurks in the New Year's dragon

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For grown-ups who want in on the fun, this is the one time of year when eating raw (white) tofu is bad for you. It will bring you ill fortune. So either chose red bean curd or head for the many delicious and auspicious deep-fried treats that augur well for the new year. (EXPRESS)

Sun., Jan. 25, H street between 6th and 8th streets NW; 2-5 p.m. (Gallery Place-Chinatown)

Wah Luck House, 800 6th St. NW; 202-289-5338. (Gallery Place-Chinatown)

express (*) movie showtimes



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IURAI (R) (3:00)9:00 A SMILE (PQ-13) (12:10)6:10 R GIRLS (PQ-13) (12:20 3:20)6:30 9:10 PT THE KING (PQ-13) (12:30 4:30)8:30 UNTAIN (R) (12:00 3:10)6:20 9:30 CAME POLLY (PQ-13) (12:40 3:40)6:40 9:20

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* TORQUE (PG-13) (12:30 2:40 4:50)7:00 9:30

* TORQUE (PG-13) (12:30 2:50 5:20)7:40 10:15

* CHASING LIBERTY (PG-13) (1:20 2:50 5:20)7:40 10:15

* CHASING LIBERTY (PG-13) (1:10 4:20)6:50 9:40

COLD MOUNTAIN (R) (12:00 3:20)6:40 10:00

CALENDAR GIRLS (PG-13) (1:20 4:10)7:20 10:10

* BIC SISH (PG-13) (1:20 4:10)7:20 10:10

★ BIG FISH (PG-13) (12:10 3:10)6:20 9:10 ★ MY BABY'S DADDY (PG-13) (2:00 4:40)7:30 9:50

INNER CIRCLE 3

2301 M STREET, N.W.
M M FOGGY BOTTOM 202-972-9556

STATION AGENT (R) (4:50)7:20 9:40 BAD SANTA (R) (4:40)7:10 9:30 KILL BILL VOLUME I (R) (4:30)7:00 9:20

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CHASING LIBERTY (PG-13) (1:10 3:50)6:50 9:50 RETURN OF THE KING (PG-13) (12:00 4:10)8:30 MONA LISA SMILE (PG-13) (DTS DIGITAL) 9:10 PAYCHECK (PG-13) (DTS DIGITAL) 9:30 3:30)6:20 9:00 ALONG CAME POLLY (PG-13) (DTS DIGITAL) (1:00 3:10 PG-13) (DTS DIGITAL) (1:00 9G-13) (DTS DIGITAL) (DTS DIGITAL

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CINEPLEX ODEO DUPONT CIRCLE 5

1350 19TH STREET, NW DUPONT CIRCLE 202-972-9556

21 GRAMS (R) (1:50 4:30)7:20 10:00 MYSTIC RIVER (R) (12:50 3:50)6:50 9:50 LOST IN TRANSLATION (R) (1:40 4:00)7:00 9:20 IN AMERICA (PG-13) (1:20 3:40)7:10 9:30 THE COOLER (R) (1:00 3:20 5:40)7:50 10:05



ALONG CAME POLLY (PG-13) (ON 2 SCREENS) (12:00 TORQUE (PG-13) (1:40 3:50)6:00 8:00 10:00
BIG FISH (PG-13) (ON 2 SCREENS) (11:50 1:30 2:50 4:30 5:40) 7:10 8:30 10:10

5:40) 7:10 8:30 10:10 MONSTER (R) (ON 2 SCREENS) (12:50 2:20 3:30 5:00) 6:10 7:40 8:50 10:30 5:00) 6:1
7:40 8:50 10:30 5:00) 6:1
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PEARL EARRING (PG-13) (11:40 2:30 5:50)8:20 10:40
COLD MOUNTAIN (R) (12:40 4:10)7:20 10:30
SOMETHING GOTTA GIVE (PG-13) (1:10 4:00)7:00 9:50
MONA LISA SMILE (PG-13) (1:20 0:30)9:30
SAND AND FOG (R) (12:20 3:20)8:20 9:20
PAYCHECK (PG-13) (12:30 3:40)9:45
LAST SAMURAI (R) 8:10
LOVE ACTUALLY (R) (1:50 5:10)
HUD (NR) 7:00

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(230 510) 730 1015 TEACHER'S PET (PG) DIG (310 515) 710 CHASING LIBERTY (PG-13) DIG

(125 400) 705 945 21 GRAMS (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (205 500) 830 CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN (PG) DIG (210 440) 745 1035 COLD MOUNTAIN (R) - ID REQ'D (345) 700 1020 PETER PAN (PG) DIG (
MONA LISA SMILE (PG-13) DIG

(445) 750 1025 LORD OF RINGS: RETURN OF THE LAST SAMURAI (R) - ID REQ'D DIG

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HOUSE OF SAND AND FOG (R) - ID REQ'D (1245 400) 725 1030 CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN (PG) (105 350) 735 1015 COLD MOUNTAIN (R) - ID REQ'D (1235 430) 815

PAYCHECK (PG-13) (120 520) PETER PAN (PG) 945 LORD OF RINGS: RETURN OF THE KING (PG-13) (1230 500) 930 SOMETHING'S GOTTA (1250 415) 730 GIVE (PG-13)

TEACHER'S PET (PG) DIG (1245 250 450) 740 940 ALONG CAME POLLY (PG-13) DIG (1225 240 500) 730 950 21 GRAMS (R) - ID REQ'D (1250 350) 705 1010 COLD MOUNTAIN (R) - ID REQ'D (1220 340) 745 LORD OF RINGS: RETURN OF THE KING (PG-13) (1230 440) 750 SOMETHING'S GOTTA

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(140 430) 720 945 CHASING LIBERTY (PG-13) (130 415) 725 1005 PETER PAN (PG) (120 420) MONA LISA SMILE (PG-13) (110 410) 715 1000



... Anyway, every low-life in La-La-Land with a rocket-propelled grenade launcher suddenly

WHERE

... It's really just another movie about a couple of angry robots ...

... Did I mention that they're all fish? ...

Michael O'Sullivan | Movie Critic Writing with your eight-fifty in mind.

Fridays in Weekend.

The Washington Post XPN298 3x3 5

TopStops

Continued from page 14

Mellow Drama: Starsailor

Starsailor means it, man. After all, the British quartet named itself after a Tim Buckley album and plays like early U2. The philosophy at work is, if it ain't overwrought, it ain't worth being wrought in the first place. But Starsailor manages to escape arena-rock bombast with a combination of hard-rocking guitars and powerful melodies.

9:30 Club, 815 VSt. NW; Sat., Jan. 24, 9 p.m., \$15; 703-218-6500. (USt.-Cardozo)



Starsailor in an understated mood

Savoyards Sing: Gilbert & Sullivan

They were the very models of two/ Upright English gentlemen/They wrote more songs than moderns do/Will Gilbert and Art Sullivan/ And now you can enjoy some scenes/From operettas tragical/and comical, historical/Incredible and magical/All thanks to these performers, though/Who'll strut and fret upon the stage/And frustrate us because, you know/Nothing rhymes with "Washington Savoyards."

Kennedy Center, Millennium Stage, 2700 F St. NW; Sun., Jan. 25, 6 p.m., free; 202-467-4600. (Foggy Bottom)

Beatlecrazy: It's 1964 Again

Dudes, it's "fab" and "gear" and all that to like the Beatles so much you start a band that ends up being, say, the Replacements. Liking them so much you accompany your 11-yearold daughter to a performance of the impersonation group 1964 and scream until you're hoarse is another thing altogether. Not judging; just pointing out two separate things.

George Washington University, Lisner Auditorium, 730 21st St. NW; Sat., Jan. 24, 7:30 p.m., \$35-\$40; 202-994-6800. (Foggy Bottom)

The Elemental Tablets

A local painter's materials: wood, water and history

GALLERIES | If you're a local artist, it's a long way from F Street to the National Gallery of Art. In 1999 Judy Jashinsky was one of a dozen painters whose F Street NW studios were threatened by development. Somehow city planners missed the irony of a Downtown Arts District without artists.

But the tribulations of the artistic life are fodder for Jashinsky. Her obsessively imagined series on the life of Renaissance painter Artemisia Gentileschi earned rave notices from its showings in New York and Washington. Jashinsky's paintings evoke medieval narratives — and Gentlieschi's personal hardships, like her rape by a friend of her father's — but with modern intimacy and wit. In 1998 her "Artemisia" portfolio was purchased by the National Gallery - mere months before her eviction notice arrived.

Jashinsky's new show at Signal 66 is called "Water and Wood." In it she culls from her 1992 exhibition,



PYRAMID SCHEME: "The Boat of Amen Ho-Tep II," a painting in the limpid tones and flattened perspective of Egyptian art.

"Voyages of Rediscovery," which featured 91 portraits on wood of contemporary Washington men whom she considers the "spiritual descendents of Columbus's sailors."

She also includes works on canvas depicting sea and river scenes from a recent trip to Egypt — a long way from F Street. Through Feb. 14. BOB MASSEY

 $Signal\,66,926\,NSt\,NW, in\,Blagden$ Alley; reception Fri., Jan. 23, 6-9 p.m., opening event 9 p.m.-1 a.m.; suggested donation \$3; 202-427-3088. (Mt. Vernon Square)



HANGING OUT: Gomez has spent six years waiting to be the Current Big Thing.

Gomez Brings It

MUSIC | Sure, it's a cliché, but when you create a debut album as polished, accomplished and mature as Gomez's "Bring It On," there is nowhere to go but down. Beating out established heavyweights to win the coveted Mercury Prize in 1998

for Britain's best album, Gomez was instantly branded as the U.K.'s Next Big Thing.

Six years and two follow-up albums later, we find Gomez still slogging through gigs in smallish rock clubs and struggling to crack the mainstream. So is the group a total bust? Yet another band that couldn't live up to its hype? Certainly not.

Gomez's intrepid fusion of adventuresome blues and spacey rock defies neat categorization. By relying on blues structures for many songs, Gomez creates beautifully languid ballads and evocative rockers that truly break the mold of traditional shiny, airheaded Britpop.

Sounding more authentic than recent British success stories like Travis and Coldplay, but not as avant-garde as indie darlings Radiohead, Gomez has simply not yet carved out its own market niche. The band's fourth album is scheduled for release this May, but six years is a long time to spend as the Next Big Thing. PETER DENTON

With Rachel Yamagata. 9:30 Club, 815 VSt. NW; Thu., Jan. 22, \$20; 703-218-6500. (USt.-Cardozo)

The Washington Post Weekend Section

History Walk:

The African American Heritage Trail is unveiled. Join Nicole Arthur on an armchair tour of nearly 100 historic sites all over the city. | Cover

→ Also, hiking in winter; the Bead Museum for kids: this week's films.



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18 | EXPRESS | 01.22.2004 | THURSDAY

Weekend Pass Food

Eating Way Out

This chef likes his food deconstructed, perhaps even foamy

CHEFS | Waiter, there's coconut milk and ginger in my squid ravioli!

That is one of the delights served up by award-winning Spanish chef Ferran Adria, who spends half the year tinkering in a workshop that's as much science lab as kitchen and who has become an idol to gourmets worldwide.

Adria's goal is to break molds the ones that determine what food should look or feel like. He takes dishes apart, or "deconstructs" them, and reassembles them with an unexpected texture or temperature.

Take Adria's trademark foams, airy reincarnations of solid food that were initially made with help from a bicycle pump. One was born of tea and seaweed.

Adria's restaurant, two hours north of Barcelona, is a mecca for epicureans worldwide and Adria is credited with introducing modern Spanish cuisine to the rest of the world.

For Adria it's important not to copy his past work or that of oth-



Spanish chef Ferran Adria sizes up one of his victims, er, ingredients.

ers. So every year he develops an all-new menu for El Bulli, working with his team of chefs from October to March, when the restaurant is closed.

At the workshop, new techniques are developed and perfected. Chefs toy with processes like "centrifugation," a way of separating the solid matter out of liquids, and practice quick-freezing foods with liquid nitrogen.

Adria won't give details, but El Bulli's final menu will features dozens of tiny dishes that are served one after another in a parade of texture and flavor that lasts hours. Adria controls the process carefully, timing each dish and telling diners — who have no say in what they're served — how to eat each one. Sarah andrews (AP)

V

Ye Olde France: Tom Sietsema reviews two longtime faves, Lavandou in Cleveland Park and La Miche in Bethesda. Sunday in The Washington Post Magazine.



What's

What's Cooking

Calling all foodies: Post online producer and culinary expert KIM O'DONNEL talks shop Tuesdays at noon on washingtonpost.com/liveonline.

How do you store ginger once you've cut off a chunk? Keeping it in the fridge uncovered seems to dry it out. My old roommate once told me to bury it in a pot of soil.

There are folks who swear by doing that as well as keeping it soaked in sherry. Others like to keep it in the freezer and then peel as necessary.

I need to make some cranberryorange muffins but can't find any

cranberries at the stores right now. Can I rehydrate dried cranberries?

You can. For 1 cup berries, use one cup hot water and let steep for 15 minutes or so. Drain before adding to your muffin mix.

I'm addicted to blood oranges. What can I do with them, besides eating them plain?

They're fab in salads with spinach or arugula. Add red onion, some pine nuts and you're all set. Squeeze the rest to help in the vinaigrette department.



Television

Can't Stop the Music

ON TOUR | The "American Idol" franchise continues, with an upcoming co-headlining tour by 2002 winner Kelly Clarkson and 2003 runnerup Clay Aiken.

The Clarkson/Aiken tour will play cut-down arenas, beginning Feb. 24 at the Charlotte (N.C.) Coliseum and running through April 16. Venue capacity will be reduced, with the ability to expand if ticket sales warrant.

The entire route of about 30 shows was announced earlier this week, just as a third edition of the popular "American Idol" TV series began on Fox.

Meanwhile, 2003 "American





Idol" winner Ruben Studdard will | Clarkson and Aiken get ready to not-rock.

embark on his own headlining tour this March or April, according to Jeff Frasco, Creative Artists Agency agent responsible for the tours.

"All three of these artists are selling records," Frasco says. They are also expected to sell tickets, given the success of past "American Idol"related tours. The first American Idols tour in 2002, featuring the 10 finalists, grossed \$8.1 million and drew 258,526 to 30 shows.

The 2003 tour nearly doubled that take, at slightly less than \$16 million and attendance of 411,005 from 41 shows.

A third American Idols tour is planned for this summer, likely to start in July. RAY WADDELL (BILLBOARD)

AND THEN THERE WERE SEVEN

Brit Hume and Peter Jennings moderate the FINAL DEBATE (8 p.m., Fox News) among Democratic presidential candidates before Tuesday's New Hampshire primary. Chris Wallace will anchor postdebate analysis.

NO ETA ON WMDS

FRONTLINE (9 p.m., CBS) Frontline returns to the subject of Iraq with "Chasing Saddam's Weapons," an hour-long look at the still-fruitless effort to find the dictator's weapons of mass destruction.

This time last year, the Bush administration and British Prime Minister Tony Blair's government made a forceful case that the Iraqis possessed a biological, chemical and possibly nuclear arsenal. Former U.N. inspector Dr. David Kay sided with the administrations.

Kay now leads the Iraq Survey Group

(ISG), which has spent the last six months searching for any critical evidence to back up his old arguments. "The entire credibility of both the U.S. and British foreign policy and intelligence has been called into question by our inability to find the weapons immediately," Kay admits.

MAKING LEMONADE

LOST IN LA MANCHA (8 p.m., IFC) A documentary look at director Terry Gilliam's doomed attempt to make a movie ver-

sion of "Don Quixote" starring Johnny Depp. Financing problems abound, but Gilliam continues to tilt at windmills before the snake-bit production is shut down after



Gilliam

six days of shooting, kevin McDonough (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

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Classifieds

JOBS

Executive Assistant for a national organization of law enforcement leaders, supporting investments in kids programs. 2-5yrs exp required. Send cover letter & resume to fight crime 2000 P Street NW Suite 240, Washington DC 20036. www.fightcrime.org No Phone Calls Please.

Automotive Mechanic, MD inspector, apply in person, Bi-lingual(english & span) but not necessary. Please call 301-593-5134.

Automotive Sales

Rare Opportunity to join one of the area's premiere GMC Dealerships. We are currently accepting applications to join our elite sales staff, Applicants must have a desire to make a min. of \$70K. We offer an outstanding work environment and full company benefits. Commission up to 33%, plus extra percentage for excellent CSI. Monthly bonuses, paid training, excellent used cars inventory, flexible schedule. Contact Stan or Billy at 301-423-2200 ext 1090 or 1091. CALL NOW

CONSTRUCTION
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No experience necessary, we will train. The DARCARS Automotive Group is the #1 vol. Auto group in the Washington Metro area with 25 dealerships in Montgomery Co., P.G. Co., Frederick Co., Charles Co. and Fairfax Co. Due to the enormous growth of our company we are seeking highly motivated, customer friendly, career mynder individuals to ioin our team of profession. mindéd individuals to join our team of profession als. Must possess a valid driver's license.

- We offer: Company car 401K, Paid vacation \$80K+ first year earning potential Rapid advancement into management

For interview apply in person to **Sam Bruner** M - F Between 9:30am - 7pm At DARCARS Mazda, 12214 Cherry Hill Rd, Silver Spring, MD. (Corner of Rte. 29 and Cherry Hill Rd.)(301) 622-0020.

BOOKKEEPER—F/T in Sterling, Va. 2-3yrs exper. in AP/AR in small business accounting software. Call 703-406-3600

/U3-406-3600

CATERING— RSVP Catering is seeking experienced agressive Account Executive to promote our corporate and social catering in the Washington Metropolitan market. Competitive salary package and benefits. Email jring@rsvpcatering.com or fax (703) 208-3414.

COOK — Alexandria retirement community. FT. Benefits. Near Huntington Metro. Fax resume to Director (703) 768-4529.



New Accounts Specialist

The Washington Post has an opening in its Accounting Department for a New Accounts Specialist. The primary responsibilities of this position are opening and monitoring new accounts; auditing for errors and providing feedback; and processing and approving credit

Qualified applicants will have at least 3 years of experience in customer service with special emphasis on the financial services of accounting, credit, collections, and/or contract nagement. They should also have a working knowledge of Word and Excel.

The successful candidate must be detail oriented and have superior customer service, problem solving, communications, organization and time management skills.

The hours for this position are 9am-5:30pm, with the exception of Thursdays, when the scheduled hours are 11am-7:00pm.

We offer an exciting work environment along with a competitive salary and benefits package. Qualified candidates should send a cover letter, resume and salary requirements to: The Washington Post, Attn: Human Resources/NA-JL, 1150 15th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20071; (202) 912-3677 - fax.

The Washington Post



Telecharge Customer Service Representative

The Washington Post has an opening in its Accounting Department for a Telecharge Customer Service Representative. The primary responsibilities of this position are:

- Monitoring delinquent advertising accounts and collection of these accounts via telephone contact;
- Achieving period collection/bad debt goals established for the Telecharge unit and team Answering ACD calls from advertisers in an efficient manner necessary to keep lost
- calls to established standards:
- cains to established standards;

 Contacting advertisers to collect delinquent dollars and to make payment arrangement for ads over our credit limit;

 Resolving a large volume of customer claims of advertising and billing errors and

- Responding to account inquiries from advertising and bining errors and processing adjustments;
 Responding to account inquiries from advertisers and sales;
 Researching customers' canceled checks, sending copies of invoices at customers' request and answering customer correspondence as requested by manager.

Qualified applicants will have 3 years of credit and collections and/or customer service experience. While an excellent phone manner is required, some experience working in an ACD environment is preferred.

The successful candidate must be detail oriented and have strong communications, customer service, organizational and time management skills.

The schedule for this position is Monday - Wednesday, 9am-5:30pm, and Thursday - Friday,

We offer an exciting work environment along with a competitive salary and benefits package. Qualified candidates should send a cover letter, resume and salary requirements to: The Washington Post, Attn: Human Resources-TLCHG-JL, 1150 15th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20071; (202) 912-3677 - fax.

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT—P/T 20/hrs week in McLean, Va. Experience with Excel & Word preferred. Strong organizational skills desired. Please fax resume to: 703-790-5135

PAINTERS HELPER/BUFFER & BODY TECHNICIAN Fax resumes to: 703-771-3840

Automotive

Shipping & Receiving Associate. Large volume Toyota dealer seeking knowledgeable, exp, hardworking person to join our team. Must be good with numbers & time management. Offering 401k, insurance, vacation etc. Send resume to Chris Kirk or Ron Atkins @ 703-684-0652 or apply at Alexandria

Toyota, 3750 Jeff Davis Hwy. Alex.

CUSTOMER SERVICE/WEB MASTER—Laurel CUSTOMER SERVICE/WEB MASTER—Laurel based delivery service co. seeking exper. CSR for fast paced computer driven env. Mgmt. trainee potential. jobs@citypl.com or 301-470-5620

Dental Recept—FT position. Requires dental exp and computer skills. Good salary and benefits. Fax resume to 202-726-3232

Dispatch/Mgmt Trainee—DC & Balto. courier co. Exp. req. in a high volume, computer based, on demand courier svc. Comp. & career path commen-surate. 301-470-5620; jobs@citypl.com.

DRIVER \$\$\$
Earn \$400-\$1100/wk. Busy courier co. Need great knowledge of DC or Balto, geo. & own vehicle or bike. Apply online www.citypl.com or 301-470-5620

Driver- Moving Co. is looking for driver W/valid driver lic. Clean driv record. Able to lft 75lbs. Pass drug screen. Expd only. Call 202-359-0493. Fax 301-552-1012.

- EARN CASH DAILY \$500-750 cash weekly
 - * Flexible Hours

* Training Provided

If you are at least 24 yrs. old, have a valid MD/VA or DC license and a clean driving record, we have an opportunity for you.

BARWOOD TAXI 4900 Nicholson Court Kensington, MD 20895 (301) 984-8294 Job Code: EXP07

DRYWALL FOREMAN

Must have tools & trans. Exp to estimate comm'l construction. Salary negot. Fax resume, drive record and ref's to 703-461-3991 or e-mail fmdrestoration@aol.com

Drywall Foreman / Superintendent—needed must have exp. We offer a benefit package. Please call 301-931-6900

Drywall Hangers & Framers—needed. Must have tools and trans. Call 301-931-6900



SENIOR EDITOR

Express, The Washington Post Company's free commuter daily, is looking for an experienced editor to join its small, hardworking team in a senior newsroom position. The ideal candidate will have three to five years of editorial management experience in a daily print or online news environment. She or he will have wide-ranging interests in both news and wide-ranging interests in both news and arts, proven news judgment, a deft editing touch, a good sense of humor and a knack for spotting the kinds of stories busy D.C.-area commuters will most want to read. Send resume, cover letter and five writing and editing samples to Express Managing Editor, PO Box 17370, Arlington, VA 22216, or e-mail to resume@readexpress.com

ELECTRICIANS— Exper'd Electricians. Min 5 yrs exper. to run svc truck & small commercial work. Drug-free co. Great benes, 401K. Call (703) 941-7230.

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BILLING COORDINATOR

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Coordinator for fast paced accounting department.
Responsibilities include all aspects of legal billing for
multiple office law firm. Position requires a minimum of 5 years experience in private law firm billing
department. Accounting degree and experience
with TABS. III preferred. We offer an excellent
compensation package including parking and onsite
fitness centrel* Please fax resume and salary history
to (202) 682-0249. EOE.

MEDICAL ASSISTANT

Silver Spring podiatry office including ambulatory surgical center. Some experience helpful. Please send resume to: 301-589-4479,

Growing Home Medical Equipment firm needs Biller in VA. Must have exper & elec. claim & follow-up Medicare/Medicaid. Good communication skills. Bilingual a plus. Sales exper helpful. Pls call, 301-585-6999 or Fax: 301-585-9229

FITNESS—Springfield VA club looking for FT Salesperson & PT Personal Trainers. Exper. reqd. Call (703) 866-4555.

Interior Design

Old World Weavers, a premier fabric show room at the DC design center is seeking a high energy, detail oriented, computer literate sales professional. Must have excellent communication skills & demonstrate sales ability. Fax resume to Steven Schreck @ 202-479-4571.

MARKETING — Alexandria retirement community. FT, salaried with benefits and incentive. Fax resume to Director (703) 768-4529.

Models, Actors, Singers & Dance
TV, music & fashion videos also movies and print.
New & used people needed. PT/FT 1-215-618-1551.

MORTGAGE LOAN OFFICERS
Earn \$100K+ yr (comm. only). Nat'l Banker/Broker.
Leads, Benef/training. 1-800-795-2977

Leaus, Bener/Haining. 1-800-795-297/ NANNY—Need mature-minded, exper. person. Col-lege student welcome. English speaking live in. Must have car. Great Falls. 2 children: boy 17, girl 12. Required hours: 6 am-7 am & 2 pm-8 pm with some overnights. Call: 703-307-0520.

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MEDICAL RESEARCH COORDINATOR

All clinical skills that is IE organizational, EKG, and Phlebotomy. Bethesda. Experience preferred. Excellent salary/bennefits. Fax resume 301-948-7828

OFFICE MANAGER

Fast-paced medical practice, specialty is pain management, located in No.Va. has F/T opening, Mon-Fri, flexible hrs. Great salary, great benefits. Commu-nication & computer skills a plus. FAX RESUME TO: 703-914-0064

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Seeking Salespeople to sell cell phones in metro
area malls. Average Rep will make \$3K/month. Must
be motivated. 240-731-6741



Building Engineers

The Washington Post has immediate Full Time openings for experienced Building Engineers in our Downtown DC office and production plant in Springfield, VA.

Qualified candidates must meet the following requirements:

- Have a D.C. 3rd class Operating Engineers license;
- Be CFC Recovery certified;
 BMCS/EMS or related computer experience a plus;
- Have 3 years of more experience in troubleshooting refrigeration and HVAC systems.

The Washington Post offers a competitive salary and benefits package, with opportunity for merit raises and professional development. For consideration, send a cover letter listing location preference and resume to: The Washington Post, ATTN: Human Resources-BLDGENG-JL, 1150 15th St., NW, Washington, DC 20071; Fax (202) 912-3677.

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Circulation **Zone Manager**

The Washington Post is in search of an experienced Manager to fill one of its important Circulation positions. We are interested in reviewing applicants whose management background demonstrates a record in coaching, motivating, and evaluating performance. Previous circulation experience is highly desirable.

A successful Zone Manager will need to be highly motivated, sales-oriented and customer focused. They are expected to create a results-oriented team that focuses on retaining customers and growing our business. Zone Managers contract our independent newspaper agents, set goals for agents' contract results, help to resolve customer complaints, and oversee day-to-day field operations that include revenue and expense decisions.

If you are experienced in management and have a strong customer and sales focus, please mail or fax your resume and cover letter to:

The Washington Post

1150 15th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20071 Attn: HR/ZMGR/EH Fax: (202) 912-3677

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Production Managers

The Washington Post newspaper is looking for outstanding manufacturing professionals to join its Production management team. Candidates must have at least three years experience with demonstrated success in operations/line management. Applicants must have exceptional interpersonal and analytical skills bridging tactical and strategic levels. Position requires undergraduate degree in industrial engineering, mechanical engineering, or related field. Graduate degree in industrial engineering or business a plus. Opportunities are available in several areas such as Packaging/Distribution, Maintenance and Prepress.

Qualified candidates should send a cover letter, resume and salary requirements to:The Washington Post, Attn: Human Resources - Prod Mgmt - JL, 1150 15th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20071; (202) 912-3677 - fax; legatj@washpost.com - email.

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Classifieds

JOBS

Office Manager—Springfield accountant needs a staff member for 3/day wk, Feb - Apr 15th for routine ofc functions. Gd phone skills & some knowledge of income tax desirable. Send resume PO Box 5413, Springfield, VA 22150.

PROGRAMMER

Small, downtown, professional, yet outwardly informal biostatistical firm involved in medical studies seeks a programmer with 2 years experience. Strong SAS programming skills, including data steps, macros, and graphics. Position requires a BS or MS in statistics, math, computer science, or life sciences. Fax cover letter, resume, sample programs, and references to (202) 429-9268 or email to office@statcollab.com.

Research Assistant/ Jr. Programmer

Small, downtown, professional, yet outwardly informal biostatistical firm involved in medical informal biostatistical firm involved in medical research/consulting seeks a research assistant to support study team in compiling reports, word processing, correspondence and documentation. Attention to detail, accuracy, initiative, and excellent communication skills essential. Opportunity for professional growth through introduction to SAS programming & statistical methods used to analyze data from clinical trials. Proficiency in MS Word helpful. Fax cover letter, resume, and references to (202) 429-9268 or email to office@statcollab.com.

Restaurant

MCCORMICK SCHMICK'S

Join the Pacific Northwest's Premier **Seafood Restaurant**

For three decades, McCormick and Schmick's Seafood Restaurants have been a showcase for fresh quality seafood, friendly and gracious service in an elegant and timeless atmosphere.

We are currently hiring for 'full service restaurant' experienced servers, bartenders, cocktail servers, hosts, bussers, line cooks, prep cooks and dishwashers for our newest location at 901 F Street NW in Washington DC. In addition to our great atmosphere, you will enjoy excellent earning potential and insurance benefits for full time staff after six months of employment.

Accepting applications Monday-Friday from 10am until 7pm at 901 F Street N.W. (Previously Angelo & Maxi's) . Please ask for Craig, Tommie, or Mike.

\$70K plus 1st yr potential

Dulles direct mail/shipping org. looking for highly
motivated exp. and entry lvl. Large territories/residual income/great bonuses avail. Fax resume to:
703-996-8879

Sales Coordinator

Global Securities Information, Inc. is the premier provider of SEC information to attorneys. We are in need of an individual to provide support and analysis to the field sales force. Duties will include preparation of reports, commission preparation and analysis, generation of user IDs and password for clients and some updating of our CRM system. This position will require the following qualifications: Advance MS Word, Excel and PowerPoint skills, business writing and editing skills experience with business writing and editing skills, experience with business and sales reports. Must be detail oriented and have excellent organizational, interpersonal, written and verbal communications skills. Please email your resumes to hr@gsionline.com or fax to 202-628-1133.

Teacher—Teacher Asst. for 4yr olds. M-F 8:45-1:15.

TITLE POLICY PROCESSOR

Communication & organizational skills. Responsible for clearing title, preparing title policies, maintain accounting data & monthly remittances. Exper. preferred but willing to train. Exper. in MS Word & Excel. Fax: 703-540-9110. EOE

STUFF

DIAM RING—7 Ct. Appr. \$88,500. Sac \$49K w/diam watch. 703-385-3388

\$5.99/sf, laminate \$4.99/sf. Prices incl. quick installation. 301-456-8451.

FURNITURE—6 Chair glass dining table, matching sleep sofa, Queen size canopy bed, bookcases, patio furn, plants, clothes & accessories, computer & equip, much more. 703-892-8922

HOME GENERATOR SYSTEMS

Avail. for immed. deliv. 10KW, 12KW. Call for discount pricing. Service contracts avail. 410-721-1922 HOT TUB—Overstock. 4 person. Reg \$2995 - \$1995. Other models. Must Sell! Sunglow, 703-734-9577

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Any size or condition.
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Jon Stewart * Brightman * Producers 3 Doors Down * Groban * Clay Aiken 410-496-1817 www.aah-tickets.com

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BORDER COLLIER MIX PUPS—Shot, \$200. 540-955-1841/540-247-9274

BOXER PUPS—AKC, champion lines, beautiful fawn

& white, \$600
MALTESE, PUG PAPILLON— AKC family raised, \$600. 410-326-2026

LAB RETR. PUPPIES—AKC, — Sc & Ch, Black & Choc., S & W, Ms & Fs, \$500+540-582-5769 PUPPIES MIX BRD—Shots, \$100-\$200. **540-955- 1841**/540-247-9274

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

ADAMS MORGAN/1732 V St NW—Historic Lg 4BR 1BA row brick w/unfin bsmt. Prvt rear yrd. Nr Restaurant/shops. \$2300 + utils, Thomas D. Walsh, Rltr: 202-237-8488

ALEX
\$750-\$875
LONGVIEW TERRACE 1 & 2BR apts avl in nice & quiet community, nr King St. Metro, w/w crpt, ceiling fans, ac, dw, patio, balc, prkg. Call 703-200-3182.

ALEX/AUBURN—Large 1 Bedroom Condo, many closets, CAC, Near Crystal City & Old Town. No pets. \$875.

\$875. 703-548-7311

ALEX—Immaculate 3BR, 1.55BA, 3 IVI TH, W/D, N/S
\$1425. Owner Agent. 703-801-9651

ALEX/Old Town—2BR, 2BA TH, remod., nr metro.
AVI. 2/1. \$1850/mo. 703-517-4624. RE/MAX 100.

AVI. 2/1. \$1850/mo. 703-517-4624. RE/MAX 100.
ALEX/Old Town No
Lge 1BR, vacant, clean, all utils incl. 801 N. Pitt St.
Call Vivian for appt. 703-622-0975.
Walker Real Estate
703-549-4696
ALEX/Watergate—gorg 2BR, 2BA Penthouse, in/out pools, W/d, shuttle bus. \$1500 inc utl.
571-277-1831
Alexandria
\$1275

5/1-2//-1831

Alexandria
2BR/1BA Top floor, Utils Incl!
Landmark, 900 sqft, balc, fp, many closet, great to share! Close Shops, Mall, & Metrobus. No rent til February! 703-941-1324
5/1-221-7756

ANNAND—Ramblr on ½+ ac. 4BR, 1½BA, gar. Avl. now. \$1495/mo. 703-517-4624. RE/MAX 100.

ANNAND—TH. 3BR, rec rm, fpl, 3½ba \$1795+. RE

ANNAND—TH. 3BR, rec rm, fpl, 3½ba \$1795+. RE Lic. 202-309-2252

ARL— Charming 2 BR duplex w/bsmt & backyd. Close to Ballston, Rosslyn & Pentagon City. Great Location. **835 South Ivy Street. \$1350/mo.**Call 703-887-0839

ARL/CRYSTAL CITY — 2BR apts. all utils incl. w/CATV, nr Metro/shops/rest. Free prkg. Sht-term lease. Unfurn \$1200, furn \$1300, 703-979-3772

lease. Unfurn \$1200, furn \$1300. 703-979-3772
ARL/Fairlington—2BR W/fin bsmt rm, 1000+ SF
condo in Historic Arlington, mins to Old Town &
Pentagon. Beautifully renov. Walk to Metro. OSP,
pools, tennis cts, W/d, & some utils incl.
MUSTSEE! \$1450. 610-274-3134

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\$ZZ/UU. /U3-87Z-74-32

ARLINGTON/RIVER PLACE

1 & 2BR, includes utilities, phone & cable.
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AU AREA—Beautiful garden effcy w/prkng. \$975/mo incldg utils. No lease rqrd. 202-362-3459 BETH NO. —Charm 2 Ivl condo. 2 MSBRs, 2½BA, whirlpool, frpl, w/d, great loc. walk to Metro & shops, \$1595/mo. Avl 3/15 301-881-6188

BETHESDA/Promenade—Large 1BR, available immediately, \$1400 include utilities. Call Sharon 410-849-3016

BETHESDA—Walk to Metro. 2BR, 2FBA totally updated w/garage, \$1800/mo includes utilities, parking, Call 301-652-6119.

CAP HILL

1010 G ST, NE

Huge sunny 2BR, new kit. ac, lg closets, incl. ht & hot water \$1390.

202-362-5919 301-460-7707.

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CAP HILL—300 D ST NE. Lg sunny, ground fir 1BR, Ig yd/patio, wood firs, exposed brk, fpl, w/d, cac, avl 2/1. Near Senate ofc. buildings, SEC, Union Station, \$1400+. 202-544-7911

Cap Hill—3BR, 2BA, 2nd Ivl, FP, w/d, CAC. Good condition. \$1800+utils. 721 E St, NE. #3.

Leslie

CAP HILL

525 G st, SE. #22

Rrand new ton-fir 2BR/2BA 2 lad art Jots of windows.

CAP HILL 525 GST, SE, #22 Brand new, top-flr 2BR/2BA 2Ivl apt, lots of windows, tons of light, hardwd flr, avail immed, \$1875. 202-277-5101 EHO

202-277-5101 EHO

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CAPITOL HILL/1621 Massachusetts Avebsmt, 2BR 1BA, newly remodeled w/new kit appl. Coin-op laundry on premise, \$800 utils incl except elec. Thomas D. Walsh, Rltr: 202-237-8488

CHEVY CHASE D.C.—Furn. bsmt apt w/pvt entr, sep kit, LR, BR & bath, w/d, ac, sec alr, OSP, \$1100 incl utils+ cable & internet. Short term lease. 202-244-9318

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1 block to Metro, 1BR, parking, washer/dryer, ac, dishwasher, \$1600. 202-669-0484

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COLUMBIA—\$850. 1BR, 1BA condo, new crpt, frsh paint, balc. Incls. utls. Call Abi, 240-508-8071

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Most utils included. On Busline. 703-968-7900

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3BR, 2½BA reno. fenced end TH, w-o bsmt, fp, N/p.
\$1450 703-629-4940
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2200 WISCONSIN AVE, #303 G*TOWN 2200 WISCONSIN AVE, #303 Fantastic, new, top-if 2BR/2BA light filled apt designer kitch, prvt terrace, OPEN SUN 1-3, \$2350 EHO, 202-277-5101

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Walsh, rtt: 202-237-8488

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Fir, scrn'd-in rr porch, freshly dec. w/new kit appls,
\$941 heat & hot water incl, Thomas D. Walsh, rltr:

\$941 heat & hot water incl, Thomas D. Walsh, ritr: 202-237-8488

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Large 1BR, 1BA. Parking incl. \$1500/mo incl utils. 703-969-8037

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4-BR 3½-BA colonial w/gar, prestigious ngbrhd. Call for details. Harold Levy, 301-948-6215 RE/MAX PROS, LeaveltToLevey.Com

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"GATES OF MCLEAN" Beautiful 1BR unit in Gated Community. Indr pkg. Club Hse. Coffee Bar. DVD Theatre. Fitness Ctr &

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parking, gym, all amenities, avail immed. Great location, \$995. 240-417-6093

parking, gym, all alliented parking, gym, all alliented parking, syps. 240-417-6093

NE/1101 19th St.—Lg 2BR, nr Hechinger Mall/ trans. \$717 + utils, Thomas D. Walsh, rltr: 202-237-8488

TAKE YOUR PICK

NE TAKE YOUR PICK
1616 K St.: Lg 2BR W/HDWD FIrs, \$775; Lg 1BR
W/HDWD Firs, \$675, all units freshly decorated,
coin-op laundry on premise, 1blck to Hechinger Mall
& shops, heat & hot water are included. Sec 8 ok.
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1—3465 14th St, 2nd flr. 1 BR, all utils, sect 8 ok. 2-588-8927

NW/U St/7th St/Fla Ave/Metro

NW/U St/7th St/Fla Ave/Metro
Lux ZBR 2½BA vict nr U St & Howard U. Stunning
renov w/huge MSBR, exp brk wall. New oak firs, 2
gas FP grmt kit w/maple cabs, granite top, all new
St appls w/d, CAC & ht, rr deck & more. Wlk to
Metro/rests/shops. St. prkg. \$1950. Call KC
202-309-3443 or kcegwim@yahoo.com for pics
OLNEY—Avail immed. Beaut TH, 3BR, 1½BA, LR, DR,
fin bsmt, El kit, no pets, \$1500
PaSco Properties 301-921-1200
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crpt/paint, wlk Metro. 24 hr sec. Incl utils.
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SE/1941 Naylor Rd—Freshly decorated 1BR at \$550, 2BRs at \$659. HDWD Flrs, coin-op laundry on premise, new windows, Thomas D. Walsh, Rltr: 202-237-8488

SIL SPG—NS, pvt entr 1 mi Metro. 1BR w/d \$790 inc uts 301-949-4003

uts 301-949-4003
SILVER SPRING—\$1400 2BR Brick Rambler w/den, fin bsmt, CAC, network. Walk to shopping, Metro, & bus. Eat-in-kit, 301-622-4795

SILVER SPRING/707 Chichester Rd—Lg 6BR 4½BA W/unfin bsmt, cac, gar, \$2400/mo + utils, Thomas D. Walsh, Rltr: 202-237-8488

TAKOMA PARK—2BR, w/d, rec rm, nice yd, Pet ok \$1595+uts 301-565-2526 TAKOMA PK—Effec apt, w/w carpet, full ktch, w/d, prkg, n/s, no dogs, \$675 inc heat. 301-474-1979 VIENNA—Luxurious 2 Ivl end-unit TH. 3BR, 2.5BA. Nr Vienna Metro. \$1600 703-255-6623

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ALEX/ANN—Rm. in SFH, shr. kit/ba, N/S. \$450/mo. BOWIE—SFH to sh w/prof M/F nr. trails, mall movies, gym, shrd BA, \$450/incl. maid svc+utl 202-438-1893

MT PLEAS/COL HGTS—M/F, shr Vict, nr bus & metro. Lg rm, ac, w/d, more. \$450 incl utils. 202-265-0136

NE/Nr Metro/Bus/Shops—Shr house. CATV, w/w. Control your own heat & air. Call 202-397-5861

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ADAMS MORGAN/DUPONT CIRCLE THE DREW CONDOS GREAT INVESTMENT OPPTY 2 renov condo units, European kitch, bamboo flrs, new applcs/BA, STARTING AT \$160K-\$180K 1822 15th St, NW, Wash DC 20009 Call 571-228-9694 703-625-8495

ALEX

NEW LISTING

Penthouse condo w/lux bath, upgraded kit, balc & river view. Karrina, 703-370-8670. Taylor Brown RES ALEX/Place 1 Condo—1BR, 1BA new remod w/granite, marble, Fr doors, etc, gorg! \$164,900. 571-277-1831

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JUST LISTED

Warm up by the fireplace and gaze out onto spectacular views of the National Cathedral. This truely spacious 1 BR/1BA condo offers 2 balconies (1 enclosed), beautiful Pergo floors throughout, fireplace, crown molding and more! Newer building w/pets allowed! This one's in excellent condition and won't last long! DIRECTIONS: From 495, S on Wisconsin to intersection of Wisconsin and Macomb. Building is on corner at 3217, unit 6C. Call Melody at 240.866.6599 or 301.469.2770

COLDWELL BANKER

CHEVY CHASE, MD/The Elizabeth Condo—Spac 1BR w/den, 1½BA, prkg space, gar, balc, 4th fir, nice views, walk to Shops & Metro. Free daily Shuttle bus. Indr pool, exerc rm, \$425,000. 301-590-1176.

CONVENTION CENTER AREA—Hard hat preview

Indr pool, exerc rm, \$425,000. 301-590-1176. CONVENTION CENTER AREA—Hard hat preview 1123 5th St. NW, betwn M St & New York Ave. walk to metro. Fabulous newly renov. vict. bldg, 4 mod condos, 2 1-BR, 2 2-BR w/european kitch & steel, BA w/high end fixtures, slate, tumble marble & bamboo flooring. Starting at high \$200s. 703-625-8495; 571-228-9694

FORESTVL—\$0 down. 2BR. Wlk Mall. Fpl, \$79,900. 703-370-3319

STERLING CASCADES BEAUTY

Lux condo, 2BR, 3 full BA, loft, gas fplc, vaulted ceiling, balc. Call Randa, 703-861-4980; randa@randa.com. **RE/MAX 100**.

HOUSES FOR SALE

\$245,000

AI FX/Mt Vernon ALEX/Mt Vernon \$635,000 Beautifully updated 3 IVI colonial in heart of Mt Vernon, Newly updated kit, ba, lighting & decorator touches. 4/5 BR, 2½ BA. Eat-in-kit, famrm, full bsmt. Oversized 2 car gar. Prof landscaped on quiet cul-de-sac. DIR: GW Parkwy, South toward Mt Vernon, R on Vernon View, L on Teresa Ann Ct to 8805. liferis, Jobin Realty 703-218-7734.

ALEX/RENT TO OWN—New TH, 3BR, 2.5BA, gar, many extras, Starting \$449,900. 703-926-1882 ALEXANDRIA NEAR ALL BASES-

BRAND-NEW SFH & TOWNHOUSES

3 & 4BRs, 2½Bas, 3 lvls, 1 & 2 car gar. Avail now, 1/1, 2/1,3/1. Owner finan. avail. Credit issues, bankruptcy no problems, many options, 703-660-6752 Let's Make A Deal

703-600-0-02

ARL N. \$595,000

A new SFD. Brick front colonial, 2 car gar, quality construction. Call Karrina, 703-370-8670.

www.taylorbrownrealestate.com

BETH/AIR RIGHTS—Sublease 2000 sq ft office space, available immediately. Metro, prkg, rent neg. Call J. Baker 301-664-5600 X107

BECOKI AND/WOODRIDGE \$349,000

BROOKLAND/WOODRIDGE \$349,000
Detached brick colo. 4BR, 2FBA, 2HBA, liv rm, dir
rm, 3 fpls, rec rm, fam rm & den, detached garage
By owner. 301-891-2025.

DO YOU HAVE A DISTRESSED PROPERTY you a distressed seller? We buy houses for cash. Can probably close in 7 days. Call 240-393-9222

FAIRFAX/WALK TO VIENNA METRO! Beaut TH. \$350,000. For more info, call thrs, 1-877-605-9408 ID#2003

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FALLS CH CITY/NR METRO—Fixer upper, huge .5 lot, \$449,900 as is/bld new 703-926-1882 FORESTV—S0 dwn, 3BR, 2BA, 3 lvl brk TH. \$135K. 703-370-3319

GREENBELT—360 SF Office, \$850/mo utils incl. call 301-220-0158

I BUY HOUSES/Any Condition "Fast \$\$\$\$." 301-466-2425

LOGAN EAST/Convention Center—2BR house, hdwd firs, frpl, garden, gar, \$2200/mo. 202-232-7331

MD-VA-DC—WE BUY HOUSES!!! Stop foreclosures!

Vacant? Need repairs? Estate? Divorce? WE CAN
HELP!! Quick closings!
Allegiance REIG, LLC 1-888-463-7942

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MECHANICSVILLE AREA—2 ac. and 8 ac. lots for sale, country. subdiv. w/paved rds. 35 mins Dc, 25 mins Pax River. 15 min Waldorf. Near public pier, elem. schl, lg. rec. soccer & football prk., middle school, high sch, Wal-Mart, 2 ac. \$98K, 8 ac. \$125K. 301-884-4571 Margie

READY TO BUY OR SELL A HOME.

READY TO BUY OR SELL A HOME—Call Mike V. at Coakley R.E. MD, DC , VA. Free CMA 301-642-4430

WOODLEY PARK—Bsmt studio, d/w, w/d, cbl, all utl, \$950/mo. 202-265-7131 | MANASSAS—TH for sale, 2-lvl, 3-BR, 2½-BA, remod. all baths and new floor, \$189,000. 703-818-2974 or 703-582-0395

MT PLEAS—Charming 3BR, 1BA TH w/great exposure, landscaped frt & bck gardns, hdwd flrs, formal DR, LR w/fpl, w/d, d/w, Cable ready. Sht walk Metro & Rck Crk Pk. \$2250 + utils. For appt, 202-363-4307

NE/Cap Hill End Unit Row \$399,900 ONLY \$10K NEEDED TO PURCHASE Seller pays all OTHER CLOSING COST ("NO STRINGS") 3BR, 2½BA, new GE profile appls, updated kit w/new ceramic tile fir, CAC, new crpt & hdwd firs, pvt prkg in rear, gated alley access, qualifying income of at least \$110K/yr. Mon-Fri call 301-292-6989, Sat-Sun call 301-751-4005.

NEWPORT NEWS \$1,100,000—Minutes to Williamsburg!Custom-built Colonial. Approx 7000 sq.ft., 2+ acres. Own the Warwick River W/deep water. Quick access to James River & Chesapeake Bay. Dock has power & jet-ski davit & pilings for your boat. Beautiful home w/3 car garage, 6 frplcs, 4,5BA, bsmnt suite w/FBA & kitchen. Sprinkler & security systems. 3-zone HVAC. Under warranty. All-brick w/slate roof. Quality throughtout. Spectacular sunsets! For Sale By Owner, Call 757-879-4138

NW/16TH ST. OPEN 2-4
WERE YOUR HOLIDAYS CRAMPED?
Looking for more S-P-A-C-E?? Open floorplan perfect for entertaining. 5BRs, 4 full + 2 half BAs, impecca- ble quality and design in one of DC's most desirable neighbrids. 1525 Iris St., NW (corner 16th)
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REHOBOTH BEACH—Terrific buy. 5BR, 4BA, Kings Creek Country Club. Offered furnished, \$657,000. Call Melissa Re/Max 302-227-8004.

SPGFLD \$264,900 READY FOR NEW OWNER SBR, 2.55BA 3 Ivl TH freshly painted. Nice updates; fin. walk out bsmt. Backs to trees. Call Randa, 703-861-4980; randa@randa.com. RE/MAX 100

WARRENTON—11 acres, on cul-de-sac, 1 lvl custom built home w/WO bsmt, 4BR, cathed. ceilgs. Dir. 29 to L. on Meetze Rd, R. on Green, L. on Miles Ln to #6106. Gerry, Fairfax Realty, 703-627-8522

FORD—'02 Explorer Ltd, Carmax offered \$20K, thats not enough for this 4WD, V8, 3rd st, CD, sunrf, lthr, airbags, trir hitch. NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED. MUST SELL. 301 762-9377

HD '03 1200 Custom—Black, 3 factory miles, garage kept. \$9,800. Call 703-339-5952

MERCEDES '01 ML320—Fully loaded. All equipment incl. Navi system, super cond, Silver, \$25,000. 301-855-1654 or 410-535-2139

MITSUBISHI—'03 Montero sport, premium ltd pkg, blue/silver, tan lthr, loaded, 23,800 hwy mi., MD state insp. \$23,900. 301-540-3375

NISSAN '99 Quest SE—fully loaded, leath, alarm, all pwr, Md insp, asking \$12,000/OBO 410-952-9438

ROCKVL—Great loc. I-1. 20 ft ceil. 3000 sf min, up to 6000 sf, 14 ft overhead doors, sprinkled.
301-340-6490

SE/4909 Ayers Place—13 unit apt bldg. 95% occupied. Good cond. Great investment. 7 2BRs, 6 1BRs, \$385,000. Thomas D. Walsh, Rltr: 202-237-8488

WE BUY HOUSES & APARTMENT BUILD-INGS—ANY CONDITION, ANY AREA, ANY PRICE. WE CAN STOP YOUR FORECLOSURE. 301-649-6029

WE BUY HOUSES/ANY CONDITION. STOP FORCLOSURE. 301-346-4394

WHEELS

FORD '89 TAURUS — Station Wagon. Good condition. Must sell. Best offer. 301-814-0251.

People

BOGUS ACCOLADES

'Could I BE Any More Fun?'

"Friends" star MATTHEW PERRY, "the epitome of a hot Cosmo male," has been named Cosmopolitan's Fun



Fearless Male for 2004. Editor-in-Chief Kate White described Perry, 34, as "handsome, charming

and incredibly talented. Plus, he's retained his optimism and sense of humor through difficult personal relationships." (AP)

CASTING

Meet Mr. Focker Sr.

DUSTIN HOFFMAN has been cast as Ben Stiller's dad in "Meet the Fockers," the seguel to the 2000's "Meet the



Parents." Robert DeNiro and Teri Polo are expected to recap their roles. In the film, Greg Focker's laid-back

mom and dad meet his fiancee's uptight parental units. You-knowwhat ensues. (EXPRESS)



All Together Now: "Oh Noooo!!!"

MR. BILL, the "Saturday Night Live" clay character from the 1970s whose misadventures usually left him squished, will be part of a campaign aimed at teaching children how Louisiana is losing its coastal marshes and swamps. "I wish I had a guick threeword synopsis for it other than maybe Mr. Bill says 'Ohh, nooo!!! — the coastal erosion," said WALTER WILLIAMS, Mr. Bill's creator and a native of New Orleans. The campaign will be launched next summer with Mr. Bill aided by a gang of "ESTUARIANS" — Salty the Shrimp, Eddy the Eagle and others. (AP)

ATTORNEYS

Lawyer With Tenuous Link To Jackson Case Weighs In

A former attorney for the mother of Michael Jackson's cancer-stricken accuser said the boy is in very poor health and his family is in seclu-

sion, paying little attention to the high-profile legal fight. Attorney William Dickerman said Tuesday the boy had lost a kidney, his spleen and an adrenal gland in surgery to remove a large tumor. He said he is in touch with the family frequently, and has seen the boy within the last few weeks. "They're in hiding," he said. "They're very private people." Dickerman also said that based on what he knows of the evidence, the Santa Barbara County district attorney's office has a strong case. (AP)

LITIGATION

P. Diddy Playing Favorites

The ex-girlfriend of SEAN "P. DIDDY" **COMBS** says their 10-year-old son should get the same amount in child support - \$30,000 a month, she claims — as his other son gets. Misa Hylton-Brim testified Tuesday in Family Court in New Rochelle, N.Y., in her lawsuit seeking a raise from the monthly \$5,000 she now

gets for 10-year-old Justin. Her lawyer said the hip-hop entrepreneur pays about \$30,000 a month to



support his 6-yearold son, Christian. The extra money, said her lawyer, is to keep up with expenses including

private school, a full-time nanny and around-the-clock security. (AP)

HEARSAY | RUDENESS



The guy was fat ... And the food was inedible. I took one appetizer and I had to spit it into my napkin."

-NEW YORK MAYOR MICHAEL BLOOMBERG ON DINNER AT THE LATE DR. BORERT ATKINS'S HOME

National Weather for Thursday, January 22

COURTNEY WATCH

Feed and Be Fed Upon

Getting sued by the same lawyers with whom you attempted to sue that's gotta hurt. California law firm Capello & McCann is claiming that former client **COURTNEY LOVE** owes \$228,926.49 for legal work performed in a suit against her former record label, according to documents acquired by TheSmokingGun.com. (The suit against Universal Music Group has since been settled.) A recent account statement suggests that Love ignored all bills from the firm after the initial retainer fee of



"Hee hee, I'm shy!" giggled Courtney.

\$50,000. Love has also been sued by an ex-landlord, former employees and a spa in Hawaii, noted the Web site. (EXPRESS)

-10s

-0s Os

70s

5 Day Forecast for the Washington Area

20°

All forecasts and maps provided by AccuWeather, Inc. @2004



Tonight Partly cloudy, brisk





Mostly sunny, blus terv. and colder 30° / 18°



A chance for snow o

32° / 22°



Snow, sleet and rain possible in the p.m.

35° / 26°

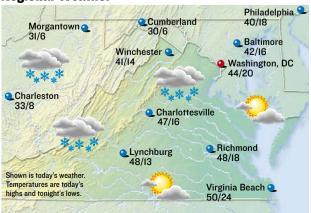
Monday



Mostly cloudy with a chance for drizzle

36°/30°

Regional Weather



Almanac

Washington, D.C., through 4 p.m. Wed. **Temperature** High Normal high .. Normal low .

Precipitation

Average humidity

24 hours ending 4 p.m	0.00"
Month to date	0.90"
Normal month to date	2.21"
ear to date	0.90"
ast year to date	
Normal year to date	2.22"

washingtonpost.com/weather

Regional Forecast

D.C. Metro: Today, partly sunny, windy. High 44. Wind west I2-25 mph. Tonight, partly cloudy, breezy, cold. Low 20. Wind northwest 10-20 mph.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today Sunset tonight Moonrise today	. 5:17 p.m. . 8:21 a.m.
Moonrise today	

Jan 29







Feb 20

Would Cities

National	Cities		world Cities			
City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W	
Atlanta	54/22/pc	41/35/s	Amsterdam	39/36/sn	46/39/	
Boston	34/18/c	23/I0/pc	Athens	39/I9/sn	30/21/p	
Chicago	10/2/pc	24/15/c	Berlin	22/16/pc	26/19/p	
Dallas	56/38/pc	56/48/c	Buenos Aires	84/6I/pc	81/61/	
Denver	48/24/s	57/23/s	Calgary	44/28/pc	41/10/p	
lonolulu	82/69/pc	81/68/sh	Dublin	55/45/pc	55/35/	
os Angeles	74/48/s	74/48/s	Geneva	34/24/pc	40/30/	
∕liami	75/52/s	70/49/s	Moscow	16/0/sf	15/14/s	
New York City	35/19/pc	25/I5/pc	Rome	37/23/s	37/26/	
Orlando	68/42/s	64/40/s	Sydney	91/59/pc	74/60/	
Seattle	48/42/r	48/38/pc	Tokyo	37/25/s	41/32/p	

Playback

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

AS A CONTRACTOR, aone-hourdelay on Metro is an hour I don't get paid. I would never expect to be reimbursed, nor would I ask. However, I would ask for understanding from Metro that the delay is not just "the inconvenience" that Metro is constantly apologizing for; it cost me far more than the gas and parking had I opted to drive instead.

There are still enough consistent delays each week for me to seriously consider abandoning mass transit.

-George A. Duthie Centreville, Va.

I HAVE COME TO THE CONCLUSION that no matter how much we complain, Metro does not care about its passengers enough to improve service. Wednesday was another day of chaos, late trains, out of service escalators and overcrowded trains — and people say we have the best service in the nation? I'd trade for New York MTA service any day, as it is reliable.

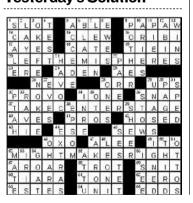
I just hope that a fare hike ("Metro Shortfall May Lead to Cuts," Jan. 16) will improve rail service and put more cars in service to alleviate the problems during rush hour.

-VALENCIA HARKLESS Suitland, Md.

WRITE TO EXPRESS

Letters must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. Submissions may be edited for space. E-mail to inbox@readexpress.com or mail to Express Letters, PO Box 17370, Arlington, VA 22216.

Yesterday's Solution



Crossword Puzzle: Third Shift | Edited by Timothy E. Parker

ACROSS

- 1 Radical
- 6 Commuted
- 10 Roofer's supply item
- 14 Scattered seeds
- 15 One less from never?
- 16 Olfactory offense
- 17 A shelf in a kitchen cabinet?
- 19 Blueprint
- 20 What's left over
- 21 A way through the building
- 22 Crossword topic
- 23 Sets of fence steps
- 25 Nimbus
- 27 Air conditioning company worker?
- 32 Low cards
- 35 Classic car
- 36 Former ruler of Iran
- 37 Gun the engine
- 38 Painter Pablo
 42 Take advantage of
- 43 Fateful day
- 45 Made a lap
- 46 Linguini, e.g. 48 Where to deposit
- your mail?
- 53 Joined, permanently
- 56 They have seats
- 59 ___ Bator, Mongolia 61 Potpourri
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 69
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 71
 71
 71
- 63 Medicinal plant
- 64 Coffee shop's finest offering?
- 66 Bodybuilder's
- exercise 67 Remain unsettled
- 68 Gave stars to 69 Award for TV
- programming
- 70 l
 - 71 Certain hearings **DOWN**
 - 1 Former world power
 - 2 Runs easily3 Checker's dance
 - 4 Make right
 - 5 Summer cooler
 - 6 Meal

- Many a toy train track
- 8 Adjudges
- 9 Before, before
- 0 Astaire props
- 11 Wait for the green12 Sandy soil
- 13 Sea eagle
- 18 Author Silverstein
- 22 State starter?

26Abduction vehicles, supposedly 28Muse of poetry 29Ergo 30Bridge position 31Flightless South

24 Speech impediment

American bird 32Stumble 33Bring on the decorator

34Holiday forerunners 39Wight or Skye 40Nabs

41 Gemstone from Down Under 44Majestic 47"Mission to Glory" star

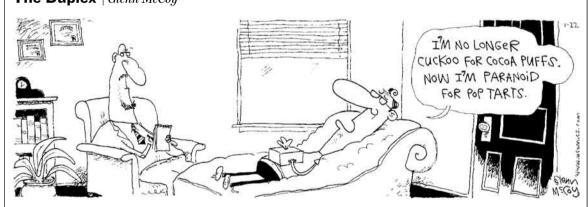
49Stomach muscles 50Congo neighbor

51 Take care of 54Best of the best 55Blue plate special spot

56Display anxiety, in a way

- 57 Grad
- 58 Standard
- 60 Byway
- 62 Vegas quote
- 64 Student's concern,
- briefly
- 65 Miracle-___(garden brand)

The Duplex | Glenn McCoy



Horoscope | Stella Wilder

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — A minor discovery can bring you major gains. Don't let too much time go by before asking for your reward.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — A quick count-up should reveal that you have more time and more money to enjoy once you've responded to that important call.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Don't be suspicious of the occasional whisper. Some things are better left unknown; you may want the surprise that's coming.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Seek out a new friend with similar interests to yours. Certain activities are always more fun with someone special by your side.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Make plans for a short trip in the near future. You deserve something special to look forward to. **CANCER (June 21-July 22)** — You may be

distracted by what others call reality, but focus more on those issues that transcend routine affairs.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — A promise comes your way, which you will remember for some time — regardless of whether it ever really comes to anything. Your attitude is shifting.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — This is a good day to get others to do what you want them to do — without looking like the bad guy in the long run. Teamwork is your goal.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — You can learn from yourself, without the need for a middleman. Take the advice you've been giving others; it applies to you as well.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — You have a great capacity for concentration, and you can focus on one thing; free yourself, however, to entertain other interests.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — You'll be enlightened. Take the time to explore new avenues of expression — personally and professionally.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — A few kind words can go a long way. You can be complimentary when you want to be; don't be stingy with that side of yourself.

LIVE ONLINE

Reliable Source

From washingtonpost.com/liveonline

The Post's "Reliable Source" columnist **RICHARD LEIBY** was online Wednesday to chew the fat.

Welcome. Thanks for eating at your desks. First, an advisory: A new site called wonkette.com (which is still in beta-prototype and password-protected) has already judged my chat the most boring on the entire Post site. We'll just have to show this Wonkette person how juicy we can get, OK? Proceed.

What's up with the Smithsonian "outsourcing" archival work to the Philippines? What an outrage!

See my advisory. We can't do "outsourcing" or dentist questions. I am outraged by this development, if it's true, but I will reserve my spittle-spewing performance for after my third-place finish in the Iowa caucuses. OK?

Did they base the Smeagol character in "Lord of the Rings" on James Carville? Both are sneaky-looking, devious and conniving. I don't know who's uglier though.

That's more like it!

I've gotta ask — who was the woman wearing the horrible Day-Glo pink suit during the State of the Union address? Her staff should be fired for letting her out of the office with that on.

I dunno, I dozed off after the president started talking about Medicare and sexual abstinence. I do recall hearing a gentle voice saying something about "uranium from Africa" and "I never meant to tell you that last year," but it turned out I was only dreaming.

As for the woman in pink, I can't ID here. I can only direct you to the front page picture in The New York Times, where the president appears to be at the center of a scrum of supportive women in red suits.

Today on Live Online

NOON: Author David Shenk discusses the PBS special "The Forgetting: A Portrait of Alzheimer's."

2 P.M.: Post Education columnist Evelyn Vuko, Dr. David Goodman and San Francisco Giants pitcher Scott Eyre discuss success despite undiagnosed or latediagnosed learning disorders.



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